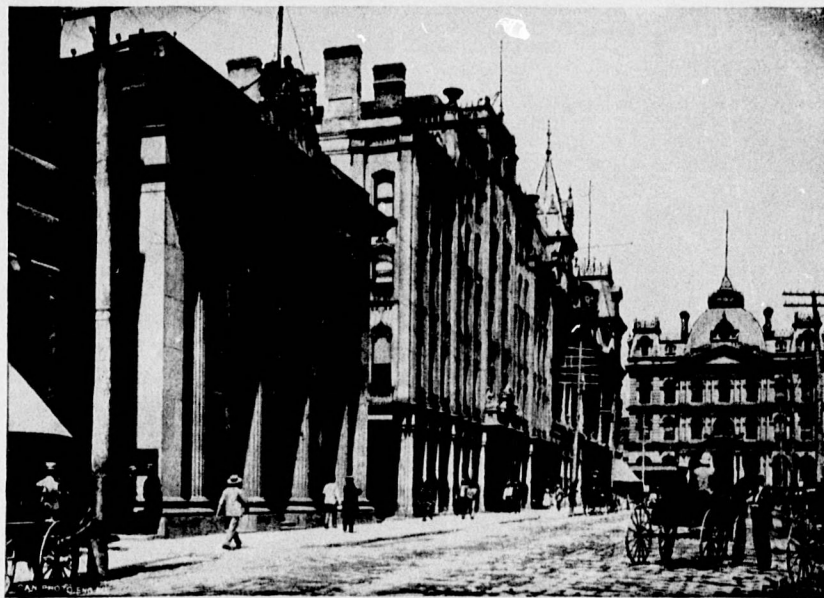


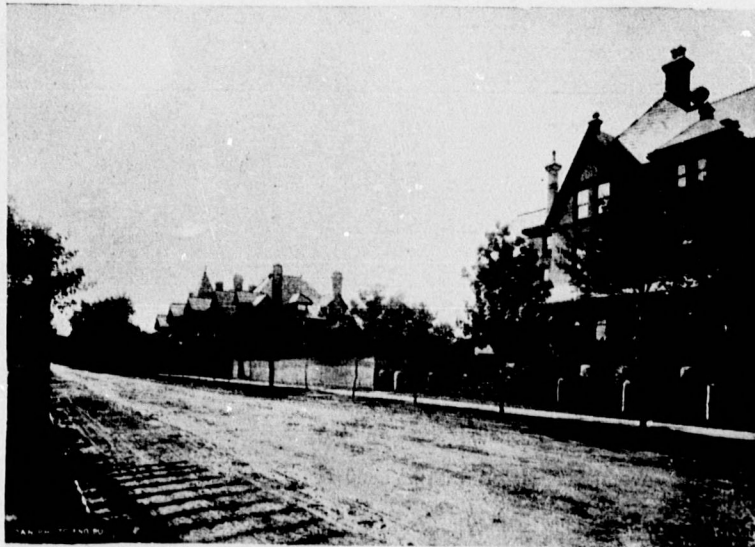
summer house of logs, a bridle-path led from the town, and communication with it was also available by the meandering stream which bounded the city on the east. As the Parliament Buildings were not yet erected, the Governor periodically returned to Niagara to summon and prorogue the Legislature and direct the affairs of State. He also undertook many expeditions through the Province, to make himself acquainted with the appearance of the country and have an eye to the wants and well-being of settlers. The routine of life was occasionally varied by the festivities of a ball at Niagara, and by the Governor's lavish hospitalities at Navy Hall or under his famous tent. These hospitalities would be shared at one time by the Indian Brant, at another by an Old World traveller and diplomat. The subjects of conversation would then turn on Republicanism and the revolted Colonies, against which the newly-formed Province was to be a bulwark and wall of defence. Unhappily for the Province and its capital, it would seem these talks of the Governor were far from pacific, and lest he might embroil the King's Government with his Republican neighbours, the sturdy loyalist Governor was transferred to another post. In September, 1796, Simcoe left Navy Hall for San Domingo, and the Province that owed him so much saw him no more.



TORONTO STREET.

With what devotion and sturdy fidelity he had served the King in his new Province of Upper Canada, there is hardly need here to tell. As we have said of him elsewhere, he gave the Colony his every thought, and worked resolutely to put it on its feet. Could he have had his own way, it is not too much to say that it would not long have remained a mere stripling by the side of the nation to the south of it. But he was too independent to be an official truckler, and had been brought up in a school that knew little of dissimulation. The student of history can have nothing but respect for the bluff old soldier.

Before the first decade of the present century had passed, the brawn and muscle of the inhabitants had done great things for the town of York. Even the face of the Province had undergone much change since the withdrawal of its first administrator. On Simcoe's departure the affairs of the country had passed temporarily into the charge of President Russell, until the Crown, in 1799, sent out a new Lieutenant-Governor, in the person of General Peter Hunter. Hunter retained office until his death in 1805, when he was succeeded in the Governorship by Sir Francis Gore. Gore, in turn, withdrew to England a year before the outbreak of the war, and the defence of the Province fell into the hands of Sir Isaac Brock, the acting-Governor. While these changes in the administration were taking place, York had grown and spread itself; churches, houses and stores had been built; streets had been opened out which, though they have long since become unfashionable, were in their day the home of wealth and the dress-parade of fashion; the Parliament Buildings had been completed, and according to British use and wont, had witnessed the ceremonial of many openings and closings of the House. Even the recesses of the neighbouring forest had been invaded by courageous settlers, seeking to found a home for themselves and their families in the woods.



ISABELLA STREET (NORTH SIDE) WEST OF JARVIS STREET.