

lows ;—a “Sanctuary” and two “Courts” of Foresters ;—two Lodges, one Preceptory, one O. Y. B. Lodge, and P. B. Lodge of the Orange Body ; Lodges of Good Templars, Sons of Temperance ; a Father Matthew Society, Grand Trunk Railway Temperance and Benevolent Society, Grand Trunk Railway Friendly Society, and amalgamated society of Engineers, Grand Trunk Railway Library and Reading Room, Young Men’s Christian Association, Young Men’s Liberal Club, and Mechanics’ Institute. This latter is now in a very flourishing state, embracing over 100 members, and possessing a library of over 2,500 volumes. It was organised in 1846, and incorporated in 1853. The Young Men’s Liberal Club, a white brick two-story building on Erie street, erected recently at a cost (including furniture and fixtures) of some \$15,000, contains reception-rooms, reading-rooms, large and beautiful public hall, billiard-rooms, bowling-alley, etc., etc., and the whole is furnished with all modern appliances as to steam-heating, gas-light, etc.

The fire department of the town consists of the “Avon” Steam Engine and Hose Company, the Ætna Hook and Ladder Company, and the Stratford Protective Company. The former possesses a first-class Silsby fire steamer. The department is part paid and part volunteer ; it is said to be in an exceptionally efficient condition.

Stratford is the headquarters of the 28th Regiment of Volunteers—Lt.-Col. Wm. Smith commanding—two companies of which (A. & B.) belong to the town. The head offices of the British Mortgage Loan Company, and the Perth Mutual Fire Insurance Company are here located. There are also local horticultural and agricultural societies in a flourishing condition, and the North Perth Agricultural Society, organised over thirty years ago, have fair grounds within the corporation inclosing twenty acres of land finely situated, on which are appropriate buildings, including a “palace” (consisting of a