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WHOLE No
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THE SEASONS

These, as they change, Almighty Father, these
are but the varied God. The rolling year
is full of Thee. Forth in the pleasing SPRING
thy beauty walks, thy tenderness and love.

When comes thy glory in the SUMMER months,
with light and heat refulgent. Then Thy sun
shoots full perfection through the swelling year;

thy bounty shines in AUTUMN unconfined,
and spreads a common feast for all that live.

WINTER awful Thou; with clouds and storms
around Thee thrown, tempest o'er tempest roll'd,
in stic darkness; on the whirlwind's wing,
thy being sublime.

—THOMSON.

BARRIE

The Convention Town
of the O. B. K. A., 1902

By HECTOR D. CAMERON.

The town of Barrie is situated at
the head of Kempenfeldt Bay and is
the County Town of Simcoe County.
The population, including Allendale,
is a little over 7000. It is easily acces-
sible by rail, as its railway system
and connections bring it into ready
communication with the continent,
east and west, north and south. The
R. enters the town in four
different branches, and during the
warmer months, four excursion
vessels, besides several private
boats, regularly ply the waters of

Kempenfeldt Bay and Lake Simcoe.

It is not my intention to go into a
detailed history of the town from its
early days to the present, but a few
facts will prove of interest:

The history of the town really
begins with the days of the war
of 1812, when the Imperial govern-
ment constructed the famous high-
way from Toronto to Holland
Landing, familiarly known as Yonge
street, and which is at present the
busiest and principal thoroughfare
of the city of Toronto, and continues in
almost a direct line for 40 miles to
the Landing; from there the stores
were taken by boat to the head of
Kempenfeldt bay, which is now the
site of the town of Barrie; thence the
goods were portaged to Willow creek,
the head waters of the Nottawasaga
river, which flows into the Georgian
bay. This route was used until they
completed the Penetanguishene road.

The site of the first habitation of
civilized man within the present
confines of Barrie is comprised in the
music hall block, immediately west of
the post office. Here David Edgar
found a stone house which had been
used by the Hudson Bay Company as
a half way house. A settlement was
soon formed and called Barrie, after
the commodore of the British fleet
stationed at Kingston. In 1853,
Barrie became a separate munici-
pality from the Township of Vespra.
The same year the Ontario, Simcoe
and Huron railway was opened as far