

ARNPRIOR

Souvenir Book and
Historical Sketch
1831--1909

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Finance
Executive of
Old Boys'
Reunion

At Arnprior
July 31st to
August 7th
1909



W. M. HOWE, PRESIDENT



A. G. CLARKE, SECRETARY



GULI LODGE



JOHN BRENNAN, VICE-PRES



D. K. CUNNINGHAM



J. R. DODD



R. A. JEFFERY

**SOUVENIR BOOK
OF ARNPRIOR
AND VICINITY**

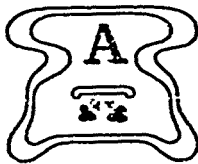
**ARRANGED AND
PUBLISHED BY
THE CHRONICLE**



THE LAST CHIEFTAIN OF THE MCNABS

ARNPRIOR.

1831--1909



ARNPRIOR received its name in 1831 from Messrs. George and Andrew Buchanan in compliance with the request of Archibald McNab, the last chief of the McNabs. Probably no district in Ontario had a more historic inception and it is doubtful if there could be found anywhere better examples of industry, perseverance and sturdy independence than that manifested by the first Highland settlers. For much of the information contained in the following brief history The Chronicle is indebted to old file copies of this journal and to "The Last Laird of McNab," prepared and published by Mr. Alexander Fraser.

In the year 1823 Archibald McNab, an imperious Highland chieftain, left his paternal estate of Kennell, Scotland, to take refuge with his cousin, the last Buchanan of the house of Arnprior, also in Scotland. The affairs of McNab were thought to be involved beyond extrication, his estate was mortgaged to the Earl of Breadalbane and the officers were on his track. By a clever ruse he escaped his pursuers and with the aid of his friends, one of whom was Mr. Peter McIntyre who died in Calabogie in 1838, he set out for Dundee and from there he sailed for London, thence to Quebec, with the intention of founding a settlement, retrieving his lost fortunes and eventually to return to his native land in better times. He was now a free man. McNab landed at Montreal and journeyed on to Glengarry where he met Bishop McDonnell who first spoke to him of the Ottawa. Chief McNab opened negotiations with the government of Upper Canada offering to found a Highland settlement with his clansmen of loyal character like that which existed on the banks of the St. Lawrence. The government informed him that a township had been lately surveyed adjoining Fitzroy and comprising 51,000 acres. It was not yet named and if he undertook the

settlement McNab could name it after himself and proceed forthwith to occupy it. They gave him a map of the township, stipulated certain terms and supposing that he had suddenly become possessed of an El Dorado he agreed to the government's terms and called the township McNab, after himself, without seeing the place and without knowing anything about its facilities. McNab then wrote to his friends in Scotland asking them to send out twenty families to settle in the new township of McNab. He stated that he was in a fine way to redeem the estate at home after he should find a transatlantic colony. On the 19th of April, 1825, the McNab settlers, amounting in all, men, women and children, to about 84 souls, embarked at Greenock for America. The heads of the families included: James Carmichael, Donald Fisher, Peter Campbell, Peter Drummond, James Robertson, Alex. McNab, James McFarlane, Duncan Campbell, James McDonald, Donald McNaughton, John McDermid, John McIntyre, Peter McIntyre, Donald McIntyre, James McLaurin, Peter McMillan, James Storie, James McFarlane (Crief,) Alexander Miller, Malcolm McLaren and Colin McCaul, names that are still very familiar in and about McNab township.

The little band of settlers arrived in Montreal on the 27th day of May and they were met by Chief McNab and his piper. After a hazardous and very difficult journey they reached Pointe Fortune. Here Mr. McLachlin, father of the late Daniel McLachlin of Arnprior, took the contract of bringing the baggage to Hawkesbury, the settlers and their families making the journey on foot, and the baggage being drawn up on ox carts and sleds. On the evening of the second day they arrived safely at Hull. There was no settlement of any kind at the place where now stands the beautiful city of Ottawa, the site of the present Capital city of the Dominion was a dense, unbroken forest, an uncultivated wild, a pathless wilderness "where the bear and the wolf roamed uncontrolled and the red deer gambolled in its deep dark glades and sylvan retreats."

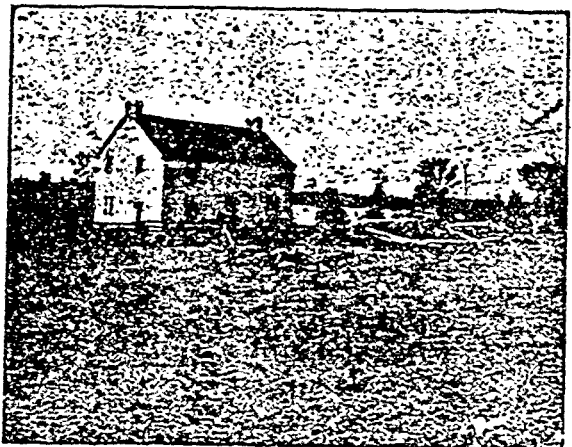
From Hull upwards the settlers met with many hardships until they reached the Chats falls. Here they had to disembark and proceed to the place of their future home through the woods, following a pathway and guided by a blaze. The only persons residing in this vicinity when the settlers arrived were Archibald Stewart, Duncan Campbell and his sons, an old Glengarry soldier and the Goodwins. The journey from Montreal to McNab occupied 28 days.

The travellers arrived at the foot of the present John street, at the point known in these days as the wharf, and there they pitched their tents. Chief McNab had erected a log house on the

summit of the hill where now stands the palatial residence of Mr. H. F. McLachlin, and he called it Kennell Lodge, after his Scottish estate. As many as could be crowded into Kennell Lodge, where the Laird resided, proceeded thither, the remainder occupied the camps until all the luggage was brought up. The Laird then called them all together and informed them that the government had given him the township as a grant because he was a Highland chief, a statement altogether untrue. The settlers had every confidence in the chief and they set out to select their lands; some went up the Madawaska, other selected lands in what is called the Flat Rapid Section, others went to the borders of Horton and the rest chose lands in the neighborhood of what is now Arnprior and along the banks of a small brook which they named Dochert, after a river of the same name which flowed through the Kennell estate in Scotland. Then they erected shanties in the very depth of the primeval forest. Sitting in solemn state at Kennell Lodge Chief McNab proceeded to sign and seal the location tickets, and remarkable documents they were; a portion of the ticket read as follows: "I hereby bind my-elf, my heirs and successors, to give you the said land free of any quit rent for three years from this date, as also to procure you a patent for the same at your exp-nse, upon your having done the settlement duties and your granting me a mortgage upon said lands, that you will yearly thereafter pay to me, my heirs and successors for every one bushel of wheat or Indian corn, or oats of like value, for every cleared acre upon the said lot of land in name of quit rent for the same in the month of January in each year. Signed and sealed, Archibald McNab." This was not at all what government had intended but the settlers were ignorant of the laws and they had implicit confidence in their chief. They bound themselves and their land to Chief McNab and his heirs forever, but a feeling of unrest soon became manifest and the story of discontent on the part of the settlers and persecution on the part of the chief is a long one. McNab carried his Lairdship with a high hand indeed, and he reduced the free-born Highlanders to the abject condition of the Russian serfs. The first open break came in less than two years. The Chief claimed the right to all the timber growing in the township, and Alexander Miller, one of the settlers, who was a school teacher and well educated, remonstrated with the chief and said the locaters had a right to the timber and in defiance of the Laird's despotic commands Miller sold all the timber on his land to Mr. John Brill, formerly a lumberman of McNab. Chief McNab was furious and he vowed vengeance on all concerned. He had influence with the government, Brill was compelled to pay the whole amount of the duty of all the timber he cut in the

township, and poor Miller while working in Nepean was thrown into prison at the command of the chief for an alleged debt of eighty pounds sterling. After being six weeks in jail his kinsmen heard of it and five of them travelled sixty miles through the deep forest to offer bail and Miller was liberated for the time being. All efforts for Miller, however, were of no avail, the chief received the verdict, the prisoner left the township and his death occurred in Beckwith in 1867, the first martyr to the Laird of McNab's despotism. Other settlers came and the persecution went on, while the Laird of Kennell Lodge sat in state, the patriarch of his clan.

In the fall of 1831 Chief McNab in Montreal met two young men, Messrs. George and Andrew Buchanan, who had just come from Scotland. He spoke to them in glowing terms of the rapids at the mouth of the Madawaska river and he persuaded them to settle in "his township." He made



Waba Lodge, The White Lake Home of Chief McNab

lavish promises and offered them a mill site free and timber for sawlogs for a trifling consideration. Further, he claimed them as distant relatives, being descended from a collateral branch of the Buchanans of Arnprior. The young men came to inspect the place and they agreed to the chief's terms and in compliment to McNab, as well as on account of their origin, they named the place Arnprior, and thus the Arnprior of Canada received its name. The place years afterwards was visited by the present King of England who planted an oak in front of Mr. McLachlin's residence, where once stood Kennell Lodge, and the tree today is one of the largest in those beautiful grounds.

The arrangement between the Laird of McNab and Messrs. Andrew and George Buchanan was finally concluded, and the

latter gave the Chief a bond for the performance of their part of the contract and immediately commenced operations. The land was cleared, workshops of log were erected, a store and dwelling of the same material were put up, a dam was thrown across the Madawaska and a bridge spanned the river. A grist mill was erected on the small island were now the present bridge rests one of its piers and the sawmill stood on the site of the present larger water mill. Early in 1833 the works were in operation and Arnprior became active for the first time and from that small beginning the Arnprior lumber industry has grown to be one of the largest on the continent, and the town takes rank with the best.

In 1834 the Buchanans and Chief McNab had a serious quarrel which culminated in the former handing over their property to Messrs. Gould, Simpson and Mittleberger. About this time another party of Highland settlers arrived in McNab including the McLachlans, the Stewarts, the Fergusons, the Robertsons and the Duffs, the descendants of these families being still in Arnprior and McNab in large numbers. The persecution of the settlers by Chief McNab was becoming worse. By this time steamboats were plying regularly between Montreal and Fitzroy Harbor and the Messrs. Buchanan were resolved to extend the service to the Chneaux rapids and a steamer was in course of construction when Mr. Andrew Buchanan fell ill and died. He was buried on the spot where now stands the Arnprior creamery and in 1853 Mr. Wm. Russell had the remains removed to the Arnprior cemetery. The year 1835 closed with Chief McNab engaged in a law suit with George Buchanan, and with the work of clearing a farm at White Lake and the erection of Waba Lodge, the chief's White Lake home, which stands to this day.

In the fall of 1836 George Buchanan failed and the whole estate was taken over by Messrs. Simpson, Gould and Mittleberger. Business in and about Arnprior became dormant and in 1839 the above-named firm abandoned the town. The grist mill had gone out of repair, the mills were being plundered and they had been assigned to the Middletons in Liverpool. Everything bore the aspect of ruin and desolation. The old-time glory of the place was gone. The people of McNab, however, were making progress; they applied for a minister and Rev. Alex. Mann was sent out from Scotland to minister to the wants of the people of Fitzroy, McNab and Pakenham. The first church was erected upon the lot of Mrs. James Stewart, 2nd concession of McNab, in 1840. The building is still used as a church. Schools were also erected in the township about this time.

Chief McNab's influence in the township was steadily wan-

ing; every outrage and persecution was met by the settlers, who were mainly organized against him. His home was now at White Lake. At the spring assizes at Perth in 1843 the chief was arrested and brought to court as a public nuisance and a verdict of "guilty" was pronounced. The victory was complete and effectual. It was the final culmination of the defeat of McNab's power. Soon after these verdicts the Laird left McNab forever; he was forced to abandon a township where he might have lived happily and beloved and with the advantages he possessed he could have ended his days in wealth and influence.

Chief McNab died on the 22nd of April, 1860, in Lanion, a small fishing village in France, and at least one redeeming feature of his life is manifest, and that is that he caused to settle in McNab as loyal, persevering, thrifty and altogether worthy a class of citizens as could anywhere be found.

McNab township made rapid progress. New settlers came to the township, the value of property quickly increased, roads and bridges were constructed and today McNab is one of the best and wealthiest townships in Ontario and many of its citizens are in affluent circumstances.

The commencement of Arnprior's progress dates to the coming of the late Daniel McLachlin, father of Mr. H. F. McLachlin, and grandfather of Arnprior's present mayor. He came in 1852 and found the place a delapidated scene of log ruins; he purchased the water power and 400 acres of land within the limits of which the municipality of Arnprior now stands. Immediately on acquisition of the site by Mr. McLachlin, in the year 1851, he proceeded to create a town, having it regularly surveyed, and the present town was laid out. Several lots were sold at a very low figure and a goodly number presented as free gifts to intending settlers. The result of his generous action was speedily manifested in the erection of several buildings, and in a short time the dense pinery gave place to the village streets, and the hum of industry took the place of the silence of the forest. For some time previous to this a sawmill, with one circular saw, was operated on the site of the present water mill No. 2, but did not prove a success, and after lying idle for some years was eventually carried away by a freshet. On the completion of the Canada Central Railway about the year 1866, the water mill No. 1 was built by Mr. McLachlin, and in the fall of the same year the construction of water mill No. 2 was commenced. These mills were operated night and day and the business which had begun by producing about 2,000 feet of lumber in a day, had reached a capacity of about 20,000,000 feet a year.

Mr. Daniel McLachlin, he who had managed so carefully and so well, decided to retire from the business in 1869 and to his

three eldest sons: Messrs. John H., Daniel and Claude McLachlin, he handed over the business, and the firm of McLachlin Bros. came into being. Messrs. John H. and Daniel McLachlin, jr., passed away in the seventies and Mr. H. F. McLachlin became a member of the firm and he is today the president of the concern. Mr. Claude McLachlin died in 1904 and Mr. Daniel McLachlin, grandson of the founder of the business, was taken into the partnership and the firm name became McLachlin Brothers Limited. A third mill, operated by steam, was built on the shore of Chats Lake in 1871, and after running successfully for four years was destroyed by fire. It was soon after replaced by another, while a fourth mill was erected a few years later.

The history of Arnprior is the history of the lumber industry here. The town has improved and developed along all lines. Permanent roadways and walks are everywhere. The place has never experienced any "boom period" but today it holds the proud position of being one of the most progressive towns in the Dominion. In 1862 it was incorporated as a village, and although it had ample population twenty years later to receive a town charter, yet it was not till 1892 that it was incorporated as a town, at which time its population was 3,200. The population in 1909, including suburbs, is about 6,000.

It is well situated on Chats Lake, at the confluence of the Madawaska with the Ottawa river, also on the C.P.R. and the Grand Trunk Railway, 36 miles west of Ottawa, 180 miles from Montreal, 277 northeast of Toronto and 50 miles southeast of Pembroke, the county seat.

The Madawaska river supplies excellent water power, and the various industries comprise large saw mills, flour mill and lumber yards; also woollen mill, machine shop, planing mills, furniture factory, scale works, butter factory, bottling works, and large brick works in the vicinity. The town contains two chartered banks, also several good hotels and many substantial business places, all enjoying a prosperous trade. The total value of real property, not including the suburbs, is \$1,075,240.

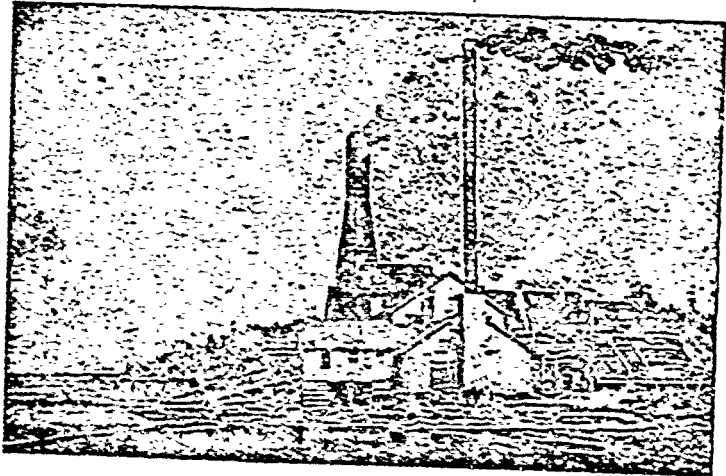




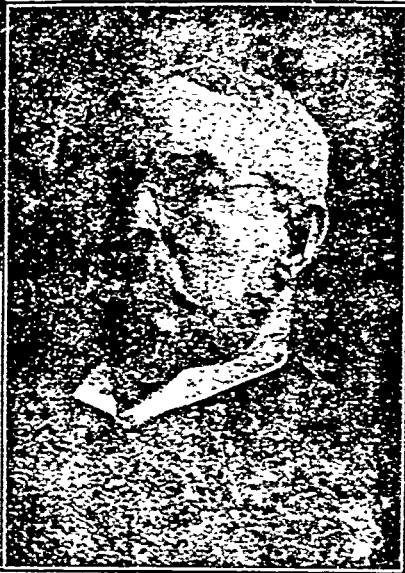
THE LATE DANIEL MCLACHLIN
Founder of the business



THE LATE CLAUDE MCLACHLIN
of the firm of McLachlin Bros.



MCLACHLIN BROS. LIMITED'S NO. FOUR MILL

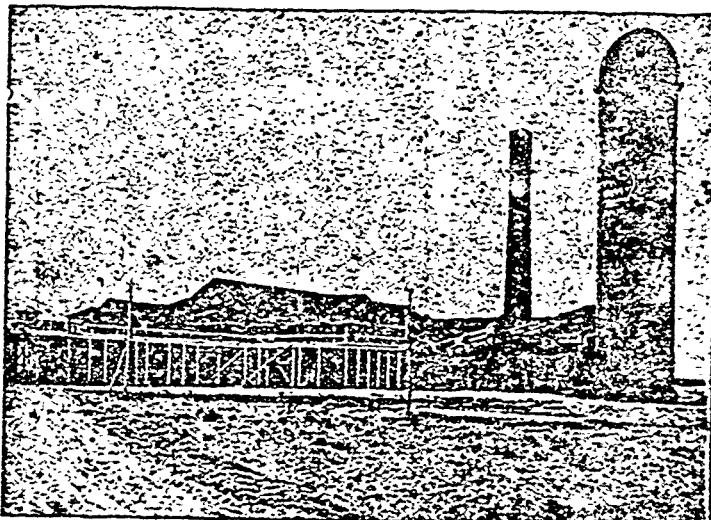


MR. H. F. McLACHLIN
President of McLachlin Bros. Limited

MR. DANIEL McLACHLIN
Vice-President of McLachlin Bros. Limited
Mayor of Arnprior



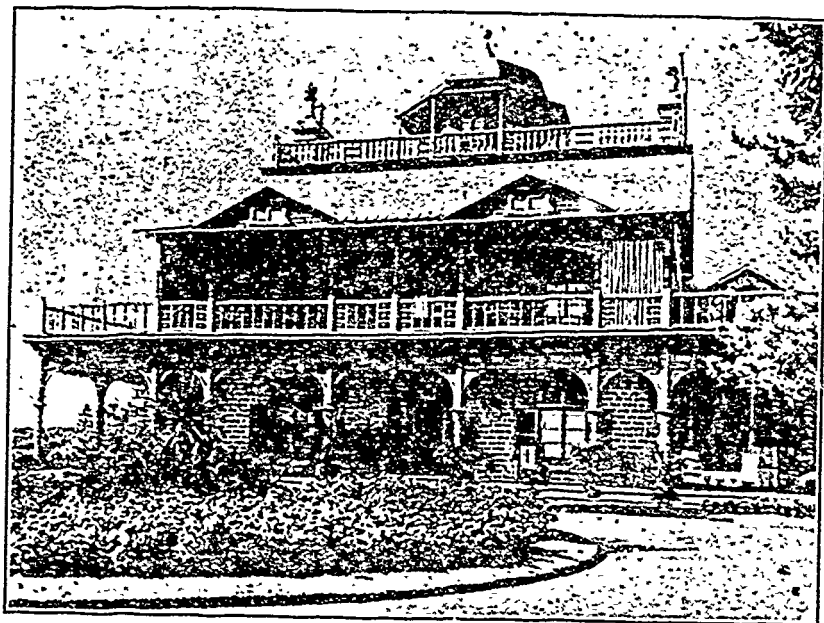
McLACHLIN BROS. LIMITED'S SORTING TABLE



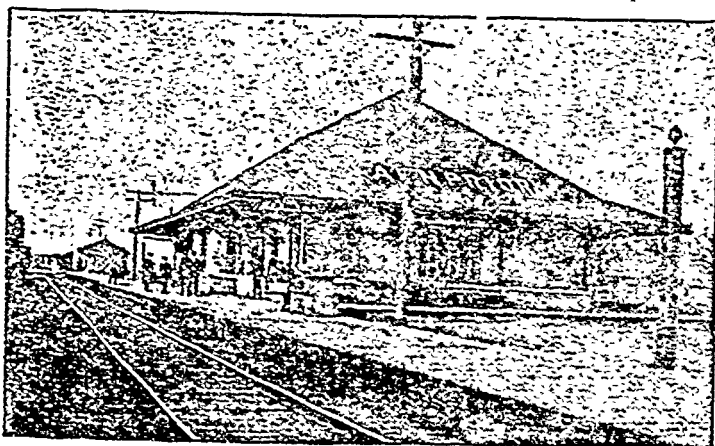
MCLACHLIN BROS. LIMITED'S NO. THREE MILL



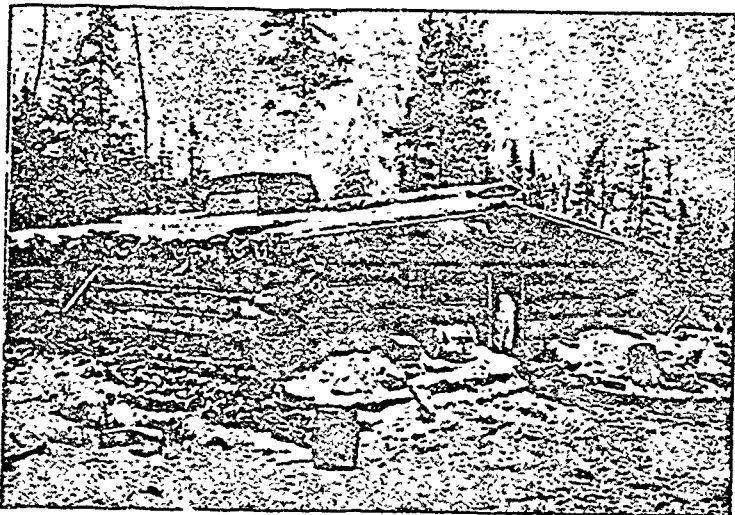
A BUSTY SPOT IN THE LUMBER YARD



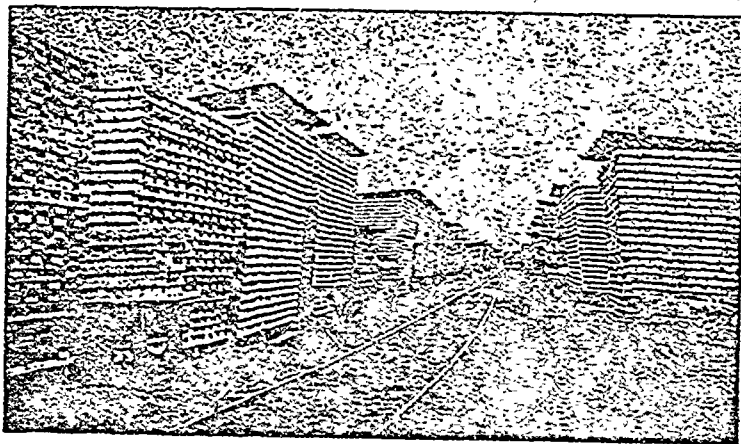
(THE HILL) MR. H. F. MCLACHLIN'S RESIDENCE



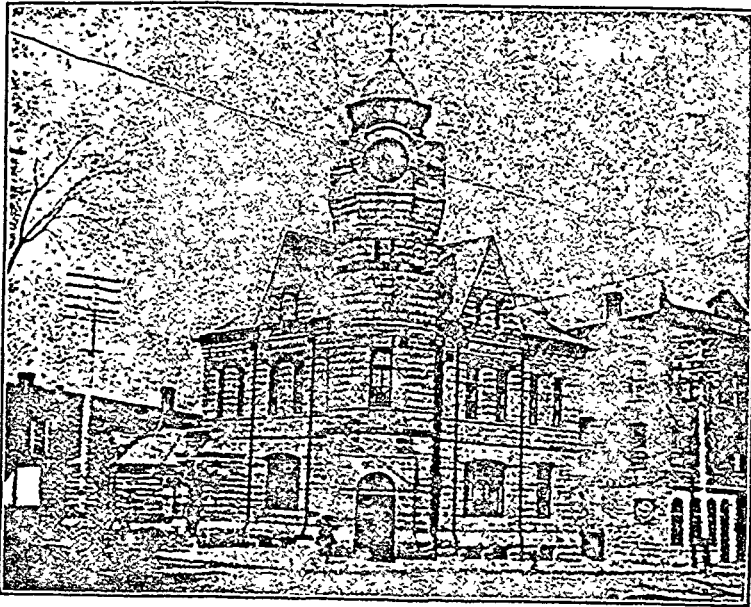
C. P. R. STATION



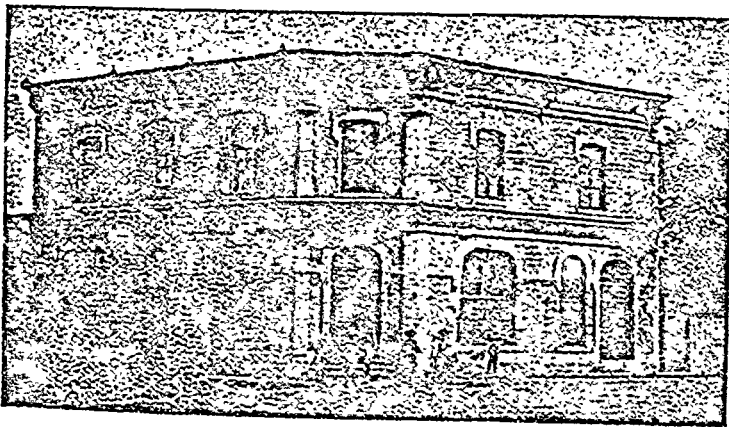
A LUMBERMAN'S CAMBOOSE



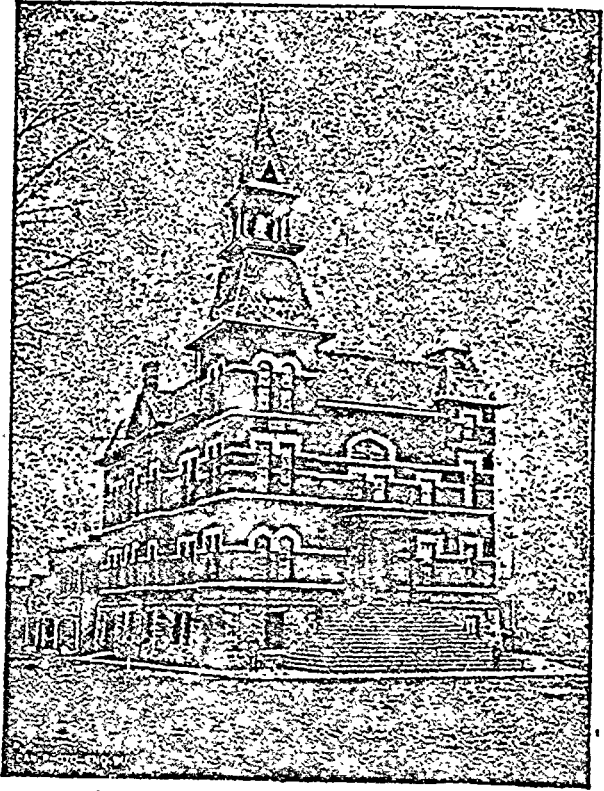
A GLIMPSE OF MCLACHLIN BROS. LIMITED'S YARD



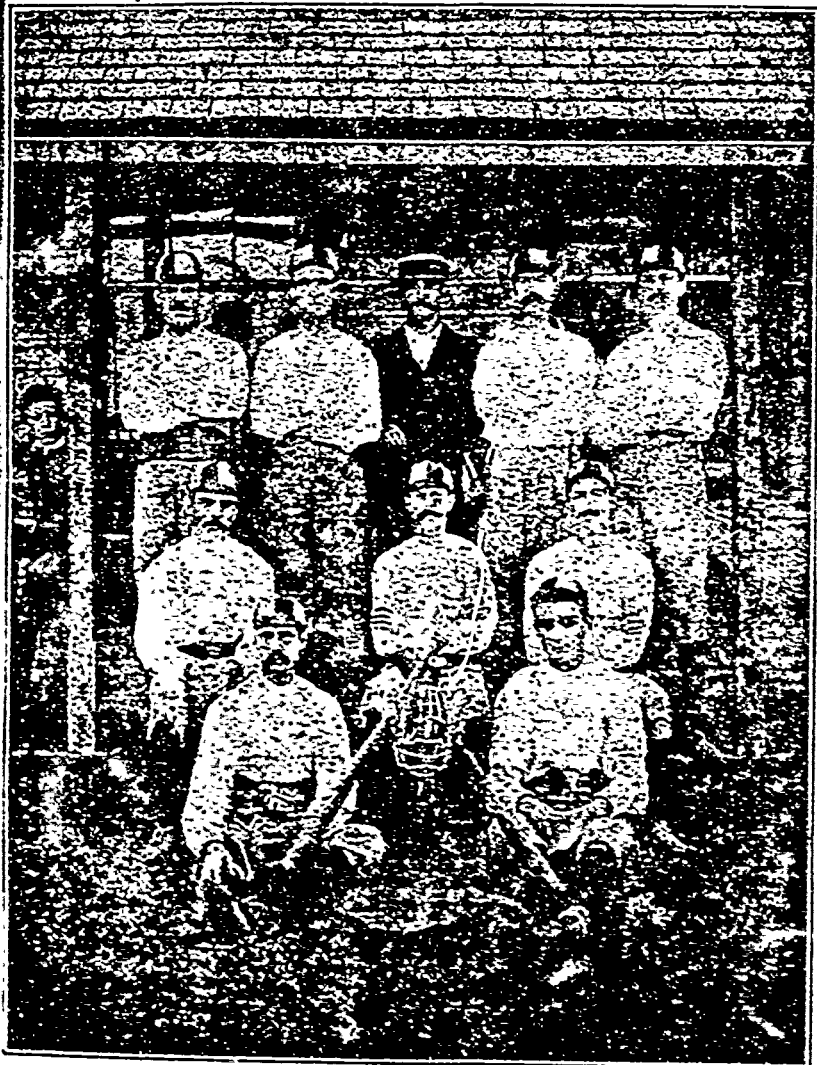
THE POST OFFICE



THE BANK OF OTTAWA



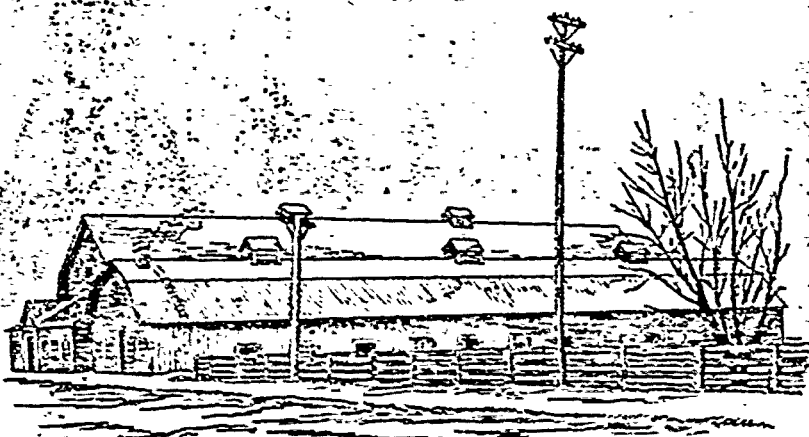
THE TOWN HALL



THE OLD PASTIME BASEBALL TEAM—A NOTED ORGANIZATION
Top Row: W. Nettleton, Savely Phillips, Tom Dobb, Joe Simpson, Geo. Valin
Second Row: Ab. Billabough, Alberten Simpson, Joe Murphy
Bottom Row: W. McNab, W. Valin



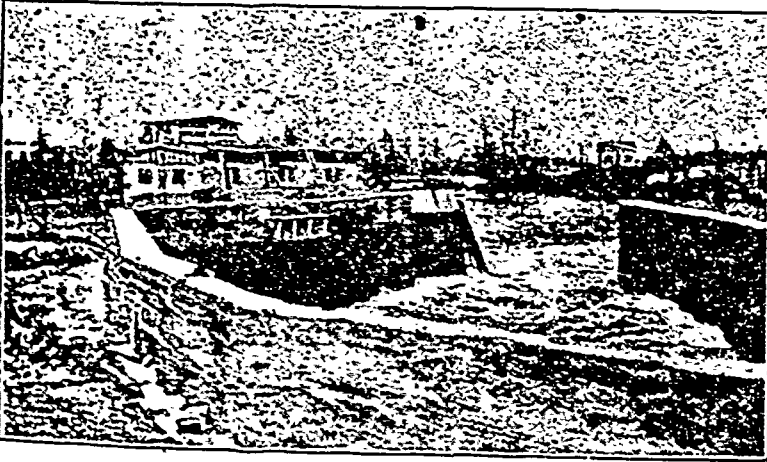
THE ARNPRIOR CURLERS WHO WON THE QUEBEC CHALLENGE CUP IN 1897
Back Row: J. R. Tierney, James Whyte, R. A. Hunt and Arthur Burwash.
Front Row: Alex. Menzies, W. J. Johnston, skip, A. Hood, skip, Hiram Johnston



THE ARNPRIOR SKATING AND CURLING RINKS



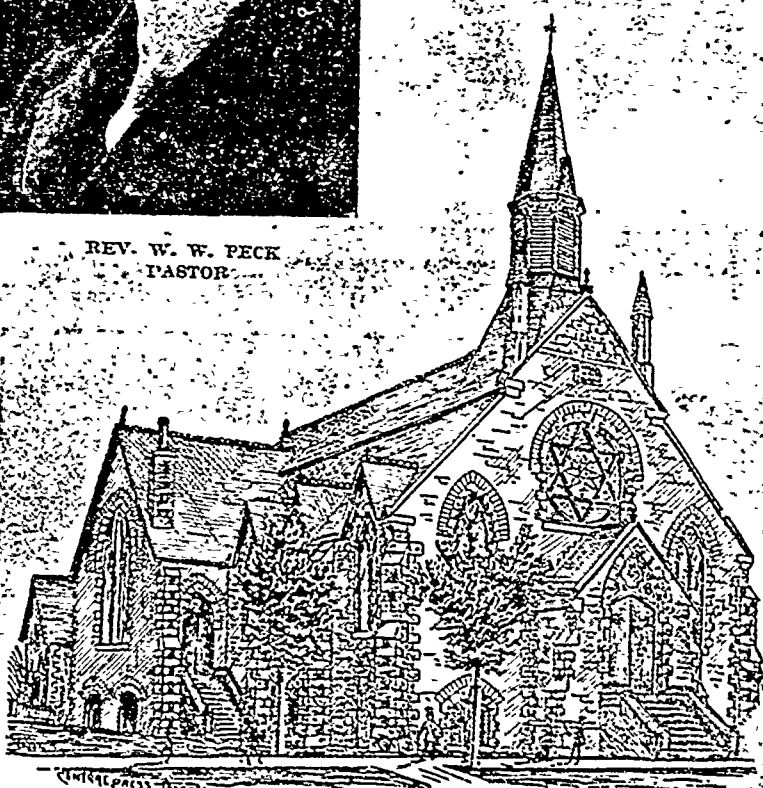
THE CURLERS WHO BROUGHT TO PAKENHAM THE BONSPIEL TANKARD
Top Row: J. F. Burgess, Wm. Elliott, A. Lesage, G. F. Francis, D. J. O'Neill,
Bottom Row: Isaac Willoughby, Dr. Murphy, C. M. Stewart, Dr. Gemmill.



THE CONCRETE DAM AT GALETTA IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION

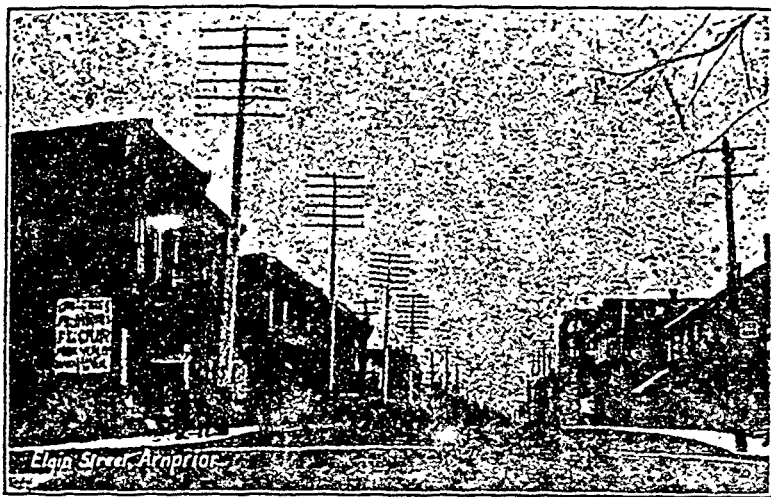


REV. W. W. PECK
PASTOR

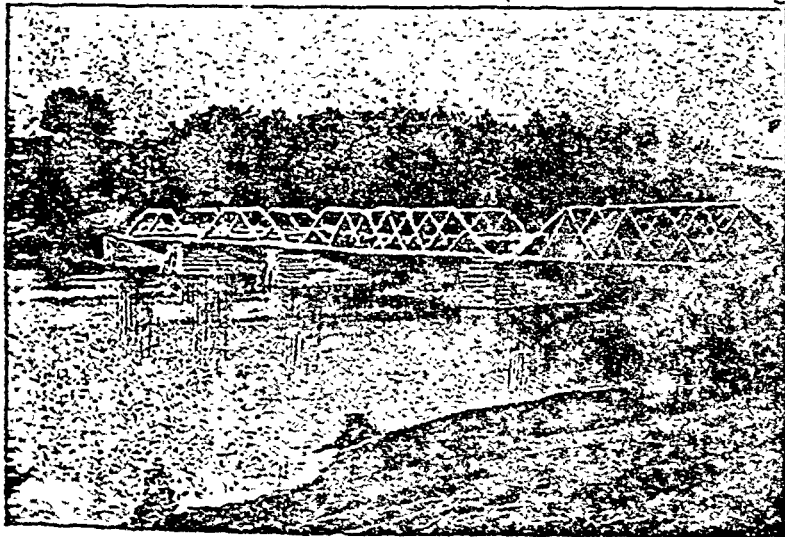


Central Press, Toronto

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH (PRESBYTERIAN)



ELGIN STREET LOOKING WEST

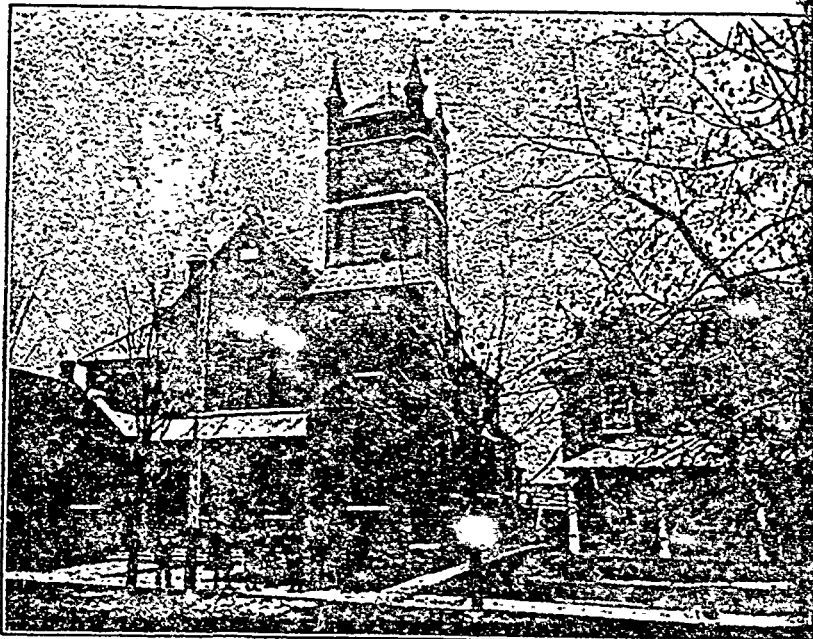


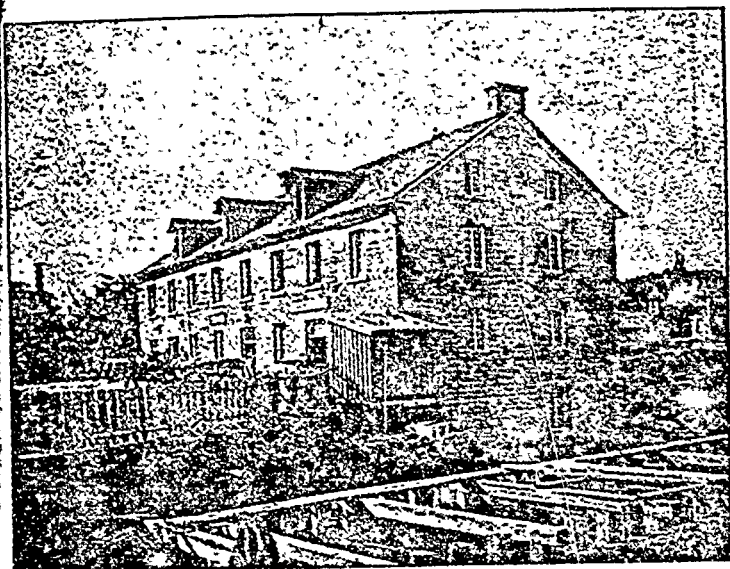
OLD CLAY BANK BRIDGE
One of the old McNab landmarks; today replaced with a modern structure of concrete and steel



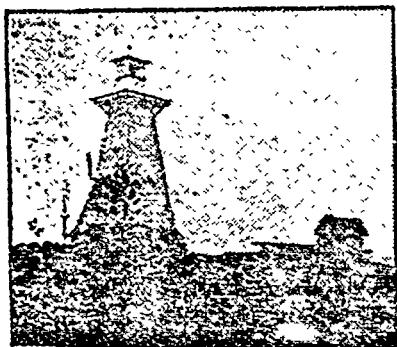
GRACE METHODIST CHURCH
AND PARSONAGE

REV. MELVIN TAYLOR
PASTOR

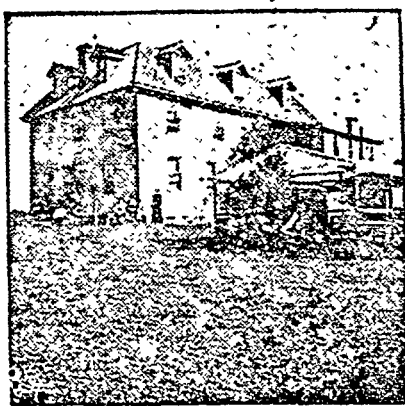




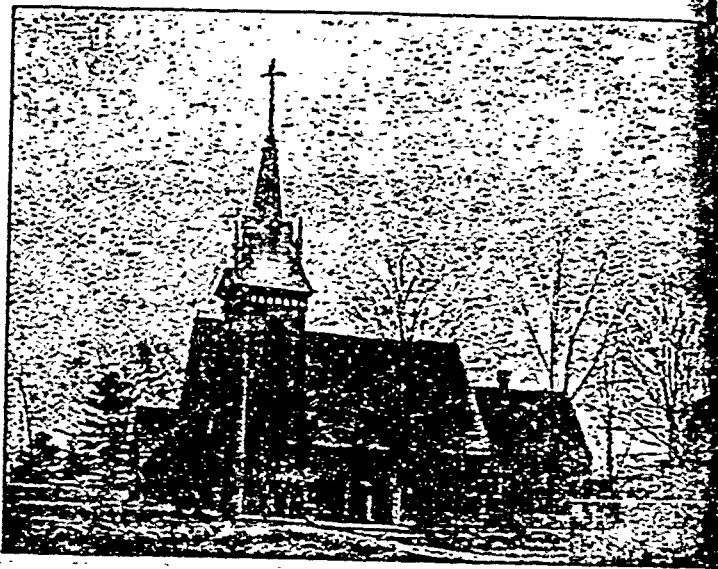
THE GRIST MILL



THE NEW GOVERNMENT LIGHTHOUSE
AT ARNPRIOR



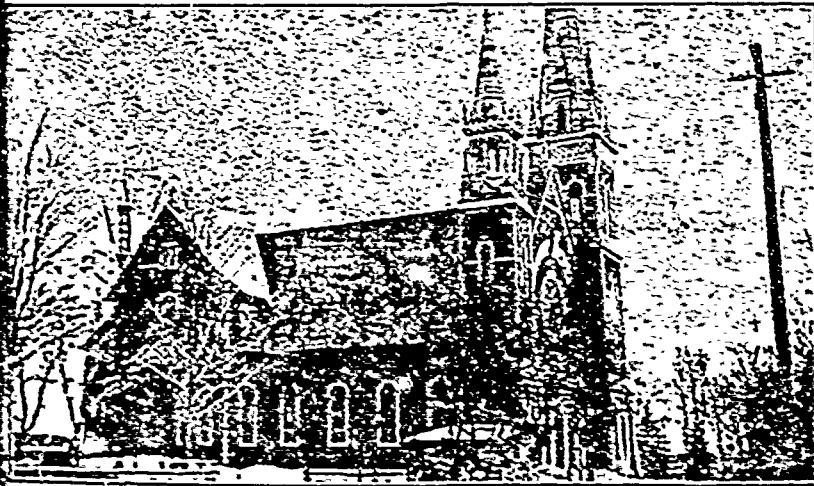
THE FAR-FAMED DOMINION SPRINGS



EMMANUEL CHURCH (ANGLICAN)

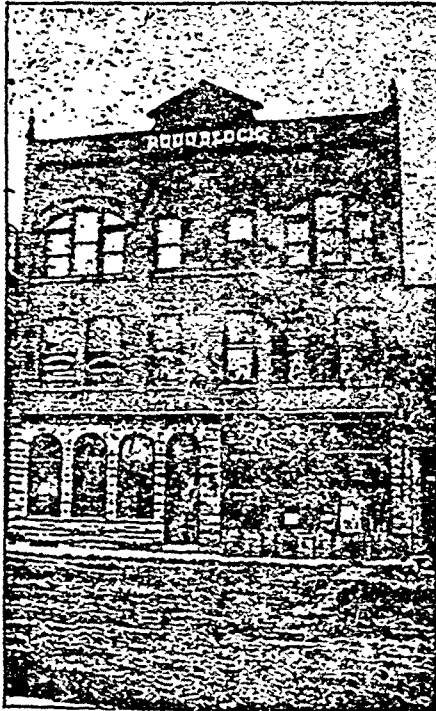
REV. RURAL DEAN WHALLEY
RECTOR

JOHN CHRYSOSTOME'S (R.C.)
REV. A. CHAINE
PARISH PRIEST





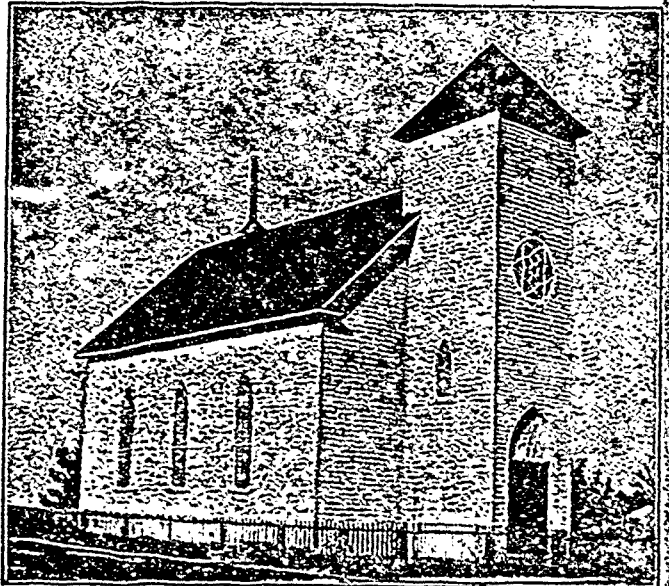
DIAMOND PARK, ON THE MADAWASKA
A Favorite Haunt of Many of the Old Boys in Days of Yore



THE RUDD BUILDING
One of Annapolis's Finest business blocks,
in which is located the Bank of Nova
Scotia and the Masonic Rooms



ST. JOHN'S (LUTHERAN)
REV. W. KUPFER
PASTOR



The Arnprior Town Council and Other Officials, 1909.

THE TOWN COUNCIL

MAYOR—Mr. Dan. McLachlin.

REEVE—Mr. W. M. Howe.

COUNCILLORS—Messrs. Edwin Farmer, M. Havey, P. T. Dagenais,
T. McCormick, J. L. Fraser, Joseph Gaudette.

CLERK—Mr. Trevor H. Grout.

TREASURER—Mr. John Tierney.

ASSESSOR—Mr. Henry Newham.

CHIEF OF POLICE—Mr. John Mattson.

AUDITORS—A. D. Sinclair and H. Newham.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CHAIRMAN—Dr. J. G. Cranston.

TRUSTEES—Messrs. W. J. Beatty, John Currie, C. A. R. Dulmage,
Michael Galvin, H. W. W. Gardner, J. G. Ledgerwood,
R. A. Jeffery, A. W. MacGregor, D.D.S., W. F. McKay, M.D.,
J. A. Simpson, J. C. Williams.

SECRETARY-TREASURER—Mr. M. D. Graham.

THE BOARD OF TRADE

HONORARY PRESIDENT—Mr. James Bell.

PRESIDENT—Mr. S. R. Rudd.

Vice-President—Mr. R. S. Drysdale.

SECRETARY-TREASURER—Mr. J. C. Williams.

COUNCIL—Dr. A. Armstrong, John Brennan, T. S. Church, A. G.
Clarke, J. W. Fraser, J. J. Grace, R. A. Jeffery, J. C.
Ledgerwood, Dr. W. F. Mackay, H. J. Mathewson, J. S. Moir,
Dr. J. E. Murphy, J. J. Neilson, E. D. Osborne, W. F. Sparham

THE LIBRARY BOARD

CHAIRMAN—Mr. George Neilson.

SECRETARY-TREASURER—Chas. Macdonald.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT—Messrs. T. H. Grout, Hedley Bridge,
G. E. Mabee, J. H. Macfarlane, Dan. McLachlin (ex-officio)

THE BOARD OF HEALTH

CHAIRMAN—Mr. R. S. Drysdale.

SECRETARY—Mr. T. H. Grout.

MEMBERS—Mayor McLachlin, Messrs. J. F. O'Neill, J. S. Moir,
John Mulvihill, B. V. Stafford and J. P. Galvin.

Arnprior, The - Town and IN

Arnprior has never known a "boom" period, consequently she has never suffered a reaction. From the earliest day the town each succeeding year has witnessed substantial progress and from present indications the development continue and Arnprior must become an important mercantile centre. No town in the broad Dominion is more favorably situated and the attention of manufacturers who desire to locate in a live, convenient, growing, prosperous, metropolitan town of 6,000 population, (including suburbs) is directed to a few of Arnprior's advantages :

Arnprior is on the C. P. R. Main Line to the Northwest.

Arnprior is on the Line of the G. T. R.

Arnprior Has Thousands of Horse Power Practically unused.

Arnprior Offers Cheap Motive Power.

Arnprior Has Many Available Sites.

Arnprior Has Modern Permanent Streets.

Arnprior Will Be An Important Point on the Georgian Bay Canal.

Arnprior Has a Great Lumber Industry and is a Large Employer of Labor.

Arnprior Has a Wide-awake Council, Board of Trade, Board of Education, etc.

Arnprior Has the Best of Churches and Schools.

Arnprior Has Two Banks.

Arnprior Is Adjoined by Large, Prosperous Townships.

Arnprior Has the Advantage of Cheap Rental Dwellings.

Arnprior Wants You, and Will Help You.

Promise - - - Its Advantages Needs

Arnprior Requires :

- A Grain Elevator
- A Pulp Industry
- A Pork Packing Factory
- A Foundry
- A Modern Steam Laundry
- A Wood Working Factory
- A Boat Factory
- A Ready-Made Clothing Factory
- A Hat Factory
- A Cereal Factory
- A Waggon Factory
- A Farm Implement Manufactory
- A Malleable Iron Works
- A Machine Shop
- A Spring Bed and Refrigerator Factory
- A Boot and Shoe Factory

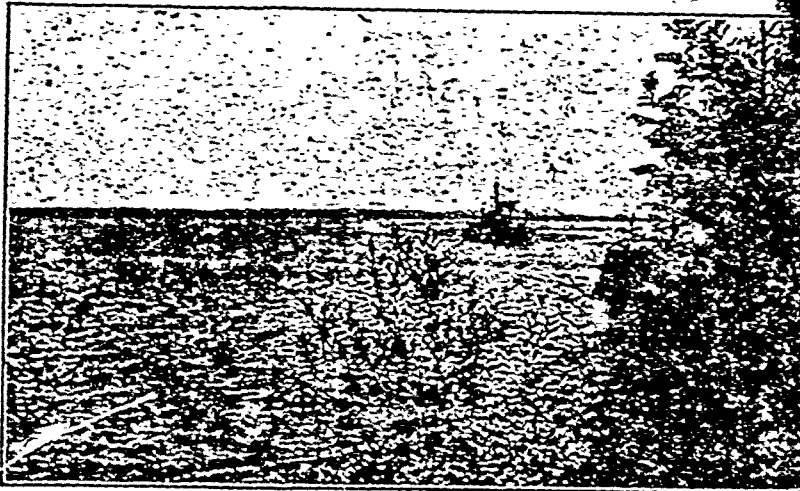
In fact Arnprior offers every economic and advantageous facility for the profitable operation of every kind of industry. Electrical Power supplied manufacturers at a very reasonable price per h. p. Write to the Secretary of the Board of Trade or to the Town Clerk.



MR. JOHN STEWART, W.A.B.A.
Reeve of McNab and Warden of the County
of Renfrew



MR. W. M. HOWE
Reeve of Arnprior



A GLIMPSE OF CHATS LAKE, ARNRIOR



MR. JOHN TIERNEY
Police Magistrate



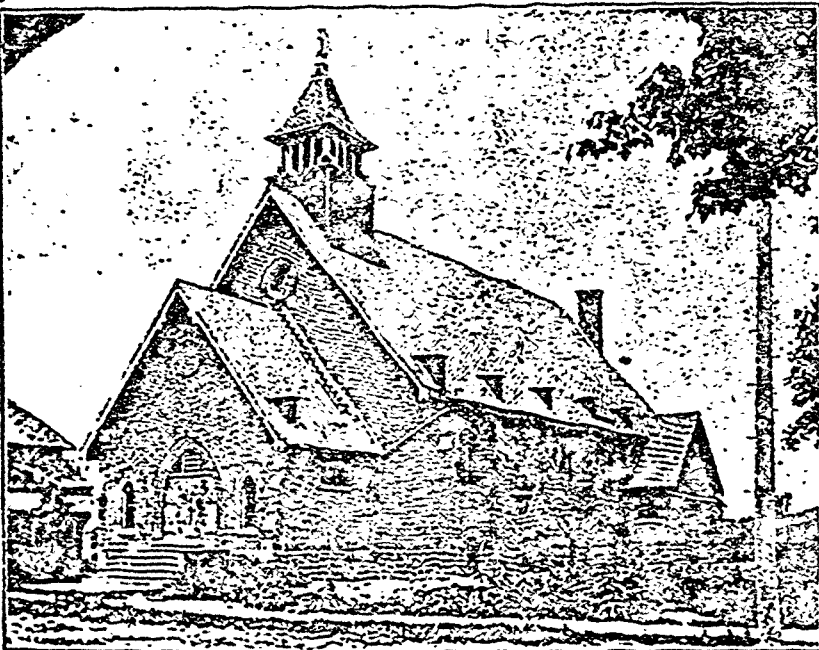
MR. JOHN MATTSOIN
Chief of Police

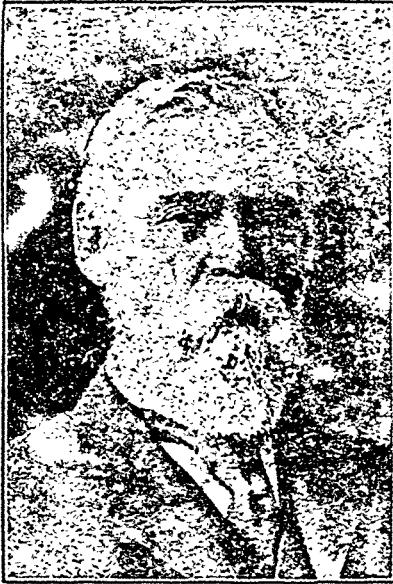
CHATS
FALLS
AT
FITZROY
HARBOUR
SHOWING
THE
IMMENSE
VOLUME
OF
UNDEVELOPED
WATER
POWER.



ELGIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

REV. JOHN PIRIE
PASTOR

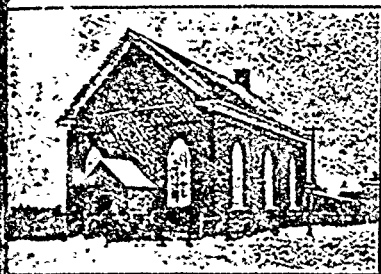




DR. J. G. CRANSTON
Chairman Arnprior Board of Education



MR. S. R. RUDD
President of Arnprior Board of Trade



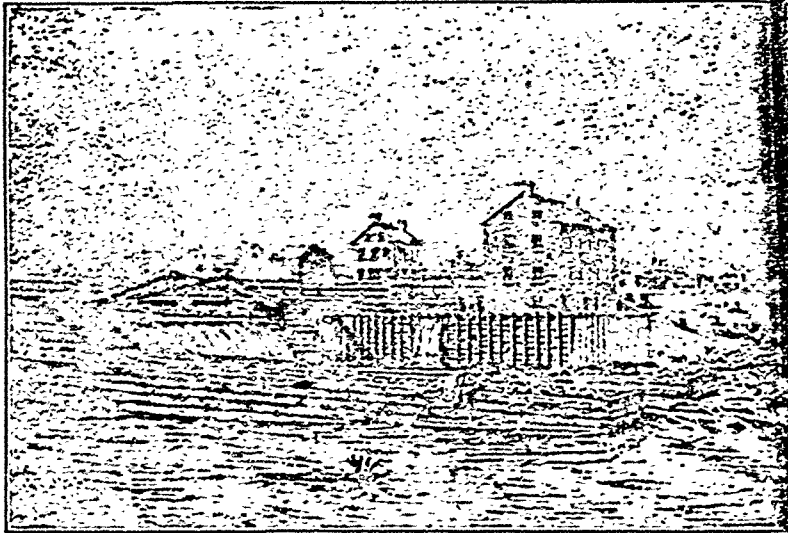
THE GERMAN BAPTIST CHURCH



REV. WM. SCHOEN
Pastor of the German Baptist Church

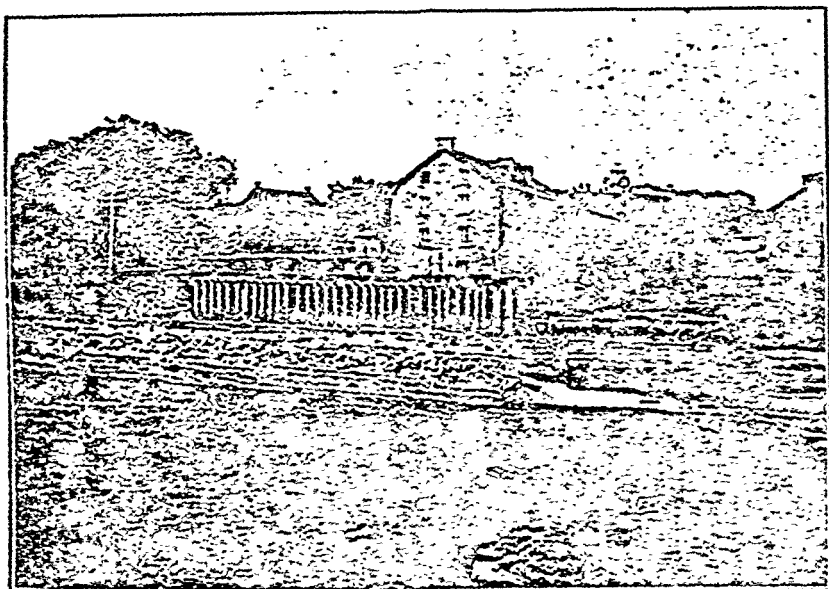


REV. D. J. McLEAN
who for 31 years was the revered pastor of St.
Andrew's Church, Annapolis. He was
superannuated in 1888 because
of impaired health



ARNPRIOR IN 1858 (FROM A DRAWING)

This sketch was made from the small island near the mill bridge and the place consisted of but a very few buildings.

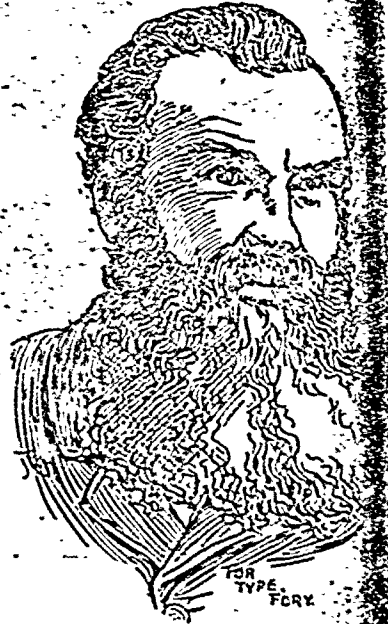


AIRPRIOR IN 1894

The photo was taken at the same point at which the sketch opposite was made. The grist mill has doubled in size and the stump land, gully and irregular roads have given place to beautiful buildings, immense factories and modern streets.



MR. JOHN MONTEITH
Arnprior's Oldest Merchant



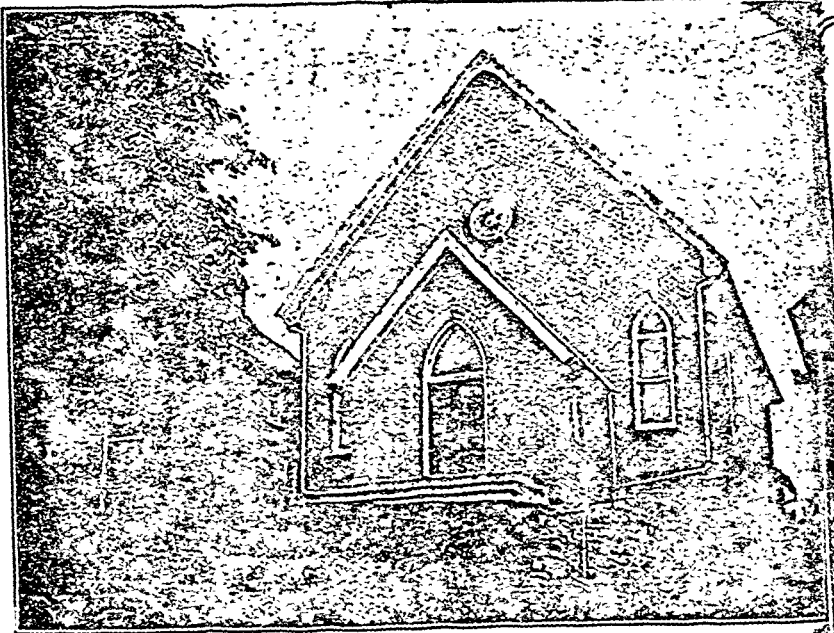
MR. JOHN LYON
who has been a resident of Arnprior
longer than any other citizen. He is strong
and active and a typical Scotchman.



THE LATE JOHN HARVEY--ARSPRIOR'S FIRST REEVE AND FIRST MAYOR



GERMAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH
REV. O. G. HALLMAN
PASTOR



The Arnprior Separate School Board, 1909



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SECRETARY—Mr. Michael Galvin.

TREASURER—Rev. A. Chaine.

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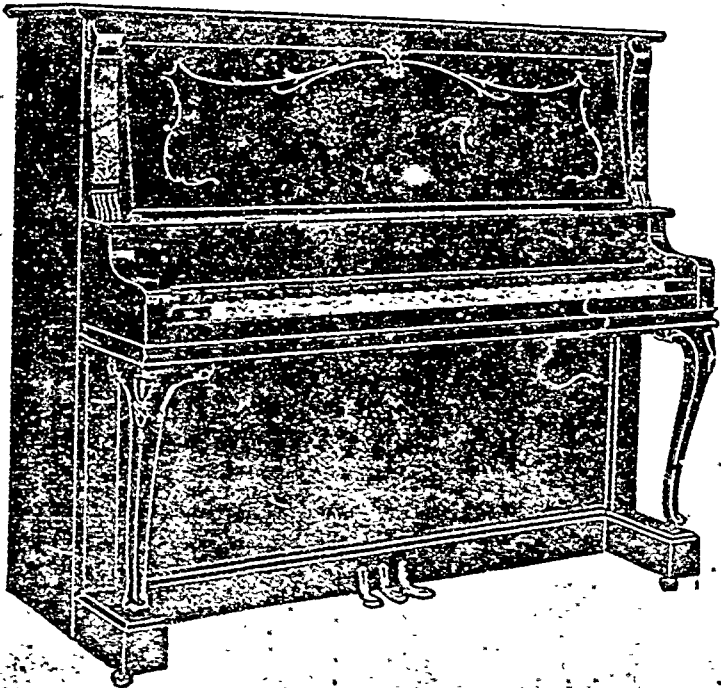
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R. A. JEFFERY, Editor and Proprietor
ARNPRIOR, ONTARIO