

"Ducit Amor Patriae"

No. 6

NIAGARA LIBRARY, 1800 TO 1820

EARLY SCHOOLS OF NIAGARA

BY JANET CARNOCHAN

REPRINT

25 CTS

# NIAGARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

---

Its objects are the encouragement of the study of Canadian History and Literature, the collection and preservation of Canadian historical relics, the building up of Canadian loyalty and patriotism, and the preservation of all historical landmarks in this vicinity.

The annual fee is fifty cents.

The Society holds eight regular meetings during the year.

The annual celebration is held on the 17th September and the annual meeting on October 13th.

## OFFICERS 1899 - 1900

Patron - WM. KIRBY, F.R.S.C.  
 President - MISS CARNOCHAN  
 Vice-President - HENRY PAFFARD  
 Secretary - ALFRED BALL.  
 Treasurer - MRS. A. SERVOS.  
 Curator - RUSSELL WILKINSON.

### Committee.

REV. J.C. GARRETT,  
 REV. N. SMITH,  
 W.W. IRELAND, B.A.,  
 CHAS. HUNTER,  
 MRS. T.F. BEST.

### Hon. Vice-Presidents.

MRS. ROE  
 CHAS. F. BALL

## Honorary Members

DR. SCADDING,  
 REV. CANON BULL,  
 COL. CRUIKSHANK,  
 WM. GIBSON, M.P.,

MAJOR HISCOTT,  
 DR. JESSOP, M.P.P.,  
 CAPT. R.O. KONKLE,  
 DAVID BOYLE, Ph. D.

JOHN ROSS ROBERTSON, M.P.

## Preface

---

THE only apology made for the re-printing of the two papers read before different societies, which form the sixth issue of our Society is that many requests have been made that these papers found in the bound volumes of the Canadian Institute and the Educational Association, and therefore seen by comparatively few may be put in a form more accessible to the general public, particularly as they are in keeping with our work. The account of the historic houses in number five has been received with such favor, that it has been resolved that the next issue of our Society shall be in the same line, and form indeed a continuation of that number. Our thanks are due to Mr. St. John for his kindness in taking Kodak views of the houses of Mrs. M. Servos and Mr. George Field for number five, and to Mr. W. H. Wylie for views for the present number and that to follow. It is to be regretted that no views can be found of many of the earliest buildings of this neighborhood, buildings which now, alas, no longer exist, but efforts are being made to bring to light any such sketches, and it is earnestly hoped that much may yet be discovered to re-vivify the past and explain many points that to us seem dark and uncertain.

The Historical Room is open every Saturday afternoon from 3 to 5. The pamphlets issued by our Society are:

No. 1. Taking of Fort George, with illustration of Niagara River, 27th May, 1813, by Col. Cruickshank, 20 cts. (The Edition is now exhausted.)

No. 2. (With three illustrations). Centennial Poem by Mrs. Curzon. Fort Niagara by Canon Bull, Slave Rescue in Niagara, 1837, by Miss Carnochan. 20 cts.

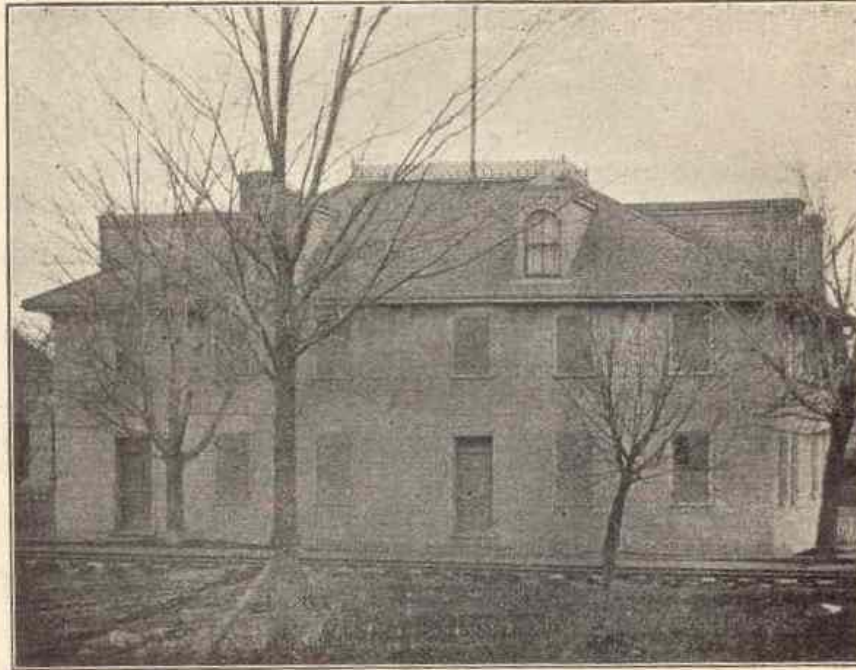
No. 3. Blockade of Fort George, with illustration of Niagara, 1806, by Col. Cruickshank. 25 cts.

No. 4. Memorial to United Empire Loyalists, by Jas. H. Coyne, President of Provincial Historical Society; History taught by Museums, David Boyle, Curator of Archaeological Museum, Toronto; Battle of Queenston Heights by Hon. J. G. Currie; Monuments by Janet Carnochan. 20 cts.

No. 5. Sermon by Rev. Robert Addison; History of Mrs. Jean Baptiste Rousseaux by Alexander Servos; Historic Houses by Alexander Servos, Charles Taggart, Jessie McKenzie; Palatine Hill and Evolution of an Historical Room by Janet Carnochan. 20 cts.

No. 6. The present issue. 20 cts.





WM. QUINN, Pho.

Stone Barracks, now Masonic Hall, used at different times as a Private School, Public School, Grammar School, also at intervals as a Barracks, first for the regulars, next for the volunteers, built about 1818 by John Eaglesum, of stone, much of it gathered from the ruins of the town.  
It has since been roughcast.

## Niagara Library, 1800 - 1820

By Janet Carnochan.

---

*Read before Canadian Institute 6th January 1894.*

It says much for the members of any Community when we find them providing reading of a high literary order, and especially would this be the case, at the beginning of this century, among a band of refugees just emerged from a great struggle, with the forest around them and everything speaking of a new country and all that is implied in this.

When by the merest chance, some months ago, I laid my hands upon an old, brown, leather-covered Record Book, I had no idea of the rich treat it was to prove. To my astonishment, by dint of much patient study of its thick, yellow pages covered with writing, though large yet very difficult to read, it was shown that in this old town of Niagara in those early days there was a most valuable public library well supported, the accounts showing regular payments and much interest, as evidenced by the money contributed and the regular records. To the boast made by Niagarians that here was held the first parliament for Upper Canada, that here was published the first newspaper, that it contains almost the oldest church records in Ontario, must now be added the honour of having the first public library, and the first agricultural society. The varied information to be gleaned from this book may be thus classified: 1st., a list of proprietors through the years from 1800 to 1820; 2nd., list of their payments and those of non-subscribers; 3rd, catalogue of library with prices of books; 4th., money expended; 5th., rules and regulations; 6th., account of annual meetings, contingent meetings, etc.; 7th., list of books taken out and date of return; 8th., alphabetical list of subscribers with separate page for entries for each during these years. When we think of the vicissitudes of the years 1812, 1813, 1814, and of the stirring events which took place here, military occupation by friend and foe, of fire and sword alternately doing their cruel work, we wonder how this library was preserved, for preserved in part at least it was, for the issue of books goes on, a new catalogue with spaces left perhaps for books missing, and in the accounts sums are paid to replace particular books. It is interesting to follow up the period of the war and in all these divisions note the latest entry, and then following in interval of two years without the break of a line even left as space between such deeds as the glor-

ious death of the Hero of Upper Canada, the rattle of guns and roar of cannons, the flight over frozen plains, watching the smoking ruins of once happy homes, still go on in the same handwriting, the payment of money, the purchase of books, the annual meetings, etc. It may be doubted if in this day of boasted enlightenment, we are willing to pay so much for our reading. One thing at least is certain, against the proprietors of this library cannot be made the charge of light reading now brought so justly against the frequenters of modern libraries. Nothing light or trashy can be found on the list. Theology, history, travel, biography, agriculture, a little poetry, and later, a small amount of fiction. We in these days can almost envy the people of that time for the delight they must have experienced when "Guy Mannering" and "Waverly" appeared, for they knew that the Great Magician of the North was still alive and was sending out regularly, those delightful stories, while we can never again hope for such pleasure as the first reading of these books evoked.

In glancing over the list of subscribers we meet with names of many who played no insignificant part - the church, the army, the civil service, the yeomanry, are all represented. We find several names from Fort Niagara, U.S., and also several names of women. Were there nothing in this book but the list of names, this alone would be valuable. It seems strange to think that after all these years we can now take the name of a noted man of those days and follow it up through these pages, tell what style of reading he preferred, when a particular book was taken out, when returned, how he paid his fees, when he attended the meetings of managers, and many other particulars. How little did they think that they were thus providing for us a very interesting page of history now!

The first entry is: "Niagara Library, 8th June, 1800. Sensible how much we are at a loss in this new and remote country for every kind of useful knowledge, and convinced that nothing would be of more use to diffuse knowledge amongst us and our offspring, than a library, supported by subscription in this town, we, whose names are hereunto subscribed hereby associate ourselves together for that purpose, and promise to pay annually a sum not exceeding four dollars to be laid out on books as agreed upon by a majority of votes at a yearly meeting to be held by us at this town on the 15th August annually, when everything respecting the library will be regulated by the majority of votes.

Andrew Heron.  
John Kemp.  
John Boyd.  
John Young  
John McClellan  
John Burtch

Wm. Musgrove.  
Silvester Tiffany.  
Burgoyne Kemp  
John Harrold  
John Chisholm  
John Hardy

G. Drake.  
Wm. Hodgkinson.  
John Jones  
Alex. Stuart  
Peter Ten Broek  
Transferred to J.T.B.



Hugh McLaren	John Reilley	J. McFarland
Wm. Dorman	Ebenezer Cavers	John Hill, Jr.
Martin McLellan	Peter Thomson	Robert Addison
Thomas Kerr	John Willson	Benjamin Pawling
John Young	Peter McMicking	Robert Nelles
Arch. Thomson	George Keefer	Daniel Servos
Thos. Otway Page	George Young	John Decow
Wm. Drake	John Smith	J. Murray

41 subscribers at 24s. each £49 4s., carried to account current page B. 15 August, 1801."

Of the original forty-one the names of only four can now be found in the vicinity, through descendants of several others may be found under other names.

The first on the list, Andrew Heron, was the secretary and treasurer of nearly all the period of twenty years. Robert Addison was the first minister of St. Mark's. Silvester Tiffany was the printer of the "Constellation," which followed the "Upper Canada Gazette." Then follows another list, continued down to 1820, of thirty-four names making altogether seventy-five, in which we recognize other names.

George Forsyth	John Powell	John McNabb
Robert Kerr	Robert Weir	John Robertson
John Wales	R. Hamilton	George Read
Charles Selick	Wm. Dickson, A.C.	Robert Mathews
Colin McNabb	James Muirhead, A.C.	Dr. West
Wm. Ward	Thomas Powis	J.P. Clement
T. Butler	Thomas Butler, A.C.	James Secord
Wm. McClellan	Isaac Swayzie	Wm. Musgrove
Alex. McKie	Jno. Symington, A.C.	R.C. Cockrell
Wm. Mann	Israel Burtch	Tubal Parr
George Havens	John Ten Broeck	Ensign Barnard
John McEwan	John Silverthorn	Wm. Claus

In this list, we find the familiar names of Butler, Claus, Dickson, McNabb. That of Swayzie has been made familiar in the name of a delicious russet apple only found in this vicinity and probably first grown on the farm of this patron of our library. Dr. West was from Fort Niagara; and ten names on this list are quite familiar to us yet.

Now follows the account of the first annual meeting held on 15th August, 1800, when it was

"Resolved, that Andrew Heron and Martin McClellan be made commissioners to arrange the business of the society till the annual meeting

to collect the subscriptions and lay it out in books to the best advantage, and that they act by the following rules:

**Rule I.**

To receive from every subscriber, three dollars and no more.

**Rule II.**

As soon as thirty dollars is collected to lay it out on books, none of which shall be irreligious or immoral.

**Rule III.**

Every subscriber may, if he chooses, when he pays his subscription, make the choice of a book not exceeding his subscription, which shall be procured for him with all convenient speed, providing nothing irreligious or immoral is contained in the same.

**Rule IV.**

As soon as a number of books can be procured, not less than fifty volumes, every subscriber shall be entitled to receive any book that remains in the library that he chooses, which he shall return in one month in good order.

**Rule V.**

No book shall be allowed to any of the subscribers unless they have first paid their subscriptions."

Here follows a catalogue of books received into the library 2nd March, 1801, No. 1 to 80.

It is remarkable that the first thirty volumes are all of a religious nature, volumes 1, 2 and 3 being Blair's Sermons, and 4 and 5, Walker's Sermons, 9 and 10, Fordyce's Sermons to Young Women; the names of Watts, Bunyan, Boston, Newton, Doddridge, Wilberforce, Watson, Owen and Willison are seen. An attempt is even made to give proper guidance to young people in an important crisis of life - as No. 28 on the list is Religious Courtship. It is not till we reach No. 34 that we see any history, travel or poetry. This first purchase of eighty volumes, costing £31 17s. furnished the young people in these forty homes in poetry only Ossian, Cowper's Task, Campbell's Pleasures of Hope, but they might revel in the Citizen of the World and the Rambler, Bruce's Travels or Robertson's History of Charles V., and if Religious Courtship pleased them not as No. 28, No 70 is simply Letters on Courtship. The only work of a less specific gravity is No. 73, the Story Teller, which no doubt was popular with the children of those households. The catalogue goes on during the years, up to 937, and contains many expensive works; then follows a list of payments for books and money received for dues, and several pages are then occupied with the account of the annual, always spelled Annuall, meetings.

These always took place on the 15th August, and the record goes on without any break, except the year 1813, when the Town was in the hands of the Americans, and 1814, when heaps of ruins replaced happy homes; also 1819 no meeting was held. The question as to how many of the books were preserved and how they were saved is yet to me an unsolved problem. Of course a large number were in circulation in the houses of the town and township; while some would be burnt others would be saved; but it is certain that a great many of the books in the library were not burnt, as afterwards, from the issue of books, from the numbers given as taken out and returned day after day, it may be seen what books were not destroyed. That many were destroyed or lost is certain, as in the accounts for next year the names of many books are given as to replace those lost. There is a new catalogue with spaces left.

To resume the accounts of meetings.

"Niagara Library Annual Meeting, No. 2 held this 15th day of August, 1801. Resolved, that in addition to two trustees who have acted last year two others shall be chosen, to act jointly with them for the year ensuing, and in the next annual meeting two others shall be chosen to act with these four, and afterwards yearly two fresh ones will be chosen, and the two oldest shall go out in such a manner as to have always six acting trustees, and at all meetings for transacting business the trustee present who shall be oldest on the list shall take the chair."

Rev. R. Addison and Mr. John Young were the additional trustees this year. "Old members to pay \$2, and new members \$4." Members who lived out of town were allowed to take two books at once, the time of returning to be extended to six weeks to those in the Township, and to those out of the Township, two months. "Members neglecting to return a book at the proper time to pay a fine of sixpence currency for every week of detention, also if any book be lost, the member to whom it was given shall pay for it at the original cost, if it belongs to a set, the whole set to be paid for by the member who lost it, he being entitled to the remaining volumes.

"Resolved, that all members who shall not pay the two dollars above mentioned within six months from this day shall be suspended. Resolved, that every member who shall withdraw from the Society shall have a power of giving his right to any other person approved of by the trustees. Resolved, that the trustees shall meet quarterly, viz., on the second day of every Quarter Sessions of the Peace, and contingent meetings shall be called by the chairman at the request of any two of the trustees."

"Quarterly meetings held at Niagara, 14th October 1801. Present, Martin McLellan, Rev. R. Addison, Jno. Young. Adjourned till the next quarterly meeting held at Niagara, 13th January, 1802. Present, Andrew

Heron, Martin McLellan, Rev. R. Addison, Jno. Young. Books in catalogue from 118 to 150 received at price annexed, and that George Young shall make a case for the books, for which he shall be paid a reasonable price." This we find in the accounts to be £5 2s.

At the quarterly meeting, April 14th, 1802, "Ordered that Mr. Tiffany print the laws of the Society, and be allowed three dollars for the same, and deliver not less than seventy copies to the trustees, one to be given to each subscriber, and that Mr. Murray be allowed one dollar more for Robertson's History of Charles V. "

At the annual meeting, August 14th, 1802, No. 3, "Robert Kerr, Esq., and Mr. Jno. Hill, trustees added." A stringent law is passed that "that part of the fifth resolution of the second meeting of the Society which directs that every member who shall neglect to return the books shall pay into the hands of some one of trustees sixpence currency for every week he continues to hold the same after the time limit is expired, be enforced by the librarian, he not being at liberty to let him have another book until that sum is paid, and that that be extended to every person, whether member or not."

New members were this year to pay \$5, and next year, this was raised to \$6. In 1804, comes the first payment to the librarian, and this is certainly a modest allowance. This library seems to have solved the difficulty of keeping down the expenses, as through all these years, there is no outlay for firewood, for rent, for light - the allowance to the librarian being a percentage on money paid by what are called non-subscribers. The original members are called sometimes proprietors and sometimes subscribers."

"Resolved that Andrew Heron be librarian for the ensuing year, and be allowed 12½ per cent, of all the moneys collected for the last twelve months from non-subscribers, and the same for the year to come, and shall be obliged to make good all the books that may be lost by non-subscribers."

This seems very hard on the librarian, but he must have been a book-lover, for through all these years, he remained faithful to his trust - the emolument sometimes being £1 7s. 6d., sometimes £2 12s. 6d. For the year 1817 it was only 5s. 7d., and the largest amount was £6, which for those days must have been munificent. In 1804, books admitted from 316 to 344, and in January, 1805, quite an addition was made to the library as well as to the members of the society, which item tells us what we had seen mentioned elsewhere of the existence of an Agricultural Society with a number of valuable books.

"Resolved that the books mentioned in the catalogue from 348 to 397 be received from the Agricultural Society at the annexed prices, and that in lieu of them, the arrears of Robert Kerr, Robert Addison, George Forsyth,

Colin McNabb and Robert Hamilton be remitted to them, and that a share in the library be given to Wm. Dickson, James Muirhead, Thomas Butler, John Symington and Joseph Edwards at £2 8s. each, all these sums amounting to £16 8s.

In 1805, the Trustees are John Kemp, Martin McLellan, John Young, John Waterhouse, Alex McKie, Wm. Mann, and evidently it is found difficult to enforce the rules, for it is "Resolved, that each and every of the laws and regulations made at the last annual meeting shall continue for the year ensuing the same as they were made." At a contingent meeting, 12th November, 1805, "John McNabb be admitted as member as one of the Agricultural Gentlemen, and Ralph Clench."

At annual meeting, No. 7, August 15th, 1806, Geo. Reid and John Grier, the two new trustees; each proprietor to pay \$1. a year; a share, always spelled shear, to be sold at \$6.50. Resolved, that Jacob A. Ball and Lewis Clement be admitted to a share in right of their fathers as members of the Agricultural Society, those gentlemen already having purchased shares, and that Jane Crooks, eldest daughter of the late Francis Crooks, be admitted to a share in right of her father as a member of the Agricultural Society."

Thus history repeats itself. As the daughters of Zelophehad demanded that the inheritance of their father should pass to them, Miss Crooks, over three thousand years afterwards, makes the same claim and is as successful in obtaining her share of current literature as they in obtaining her share of current literature as they in obtaining their share of land. This is not the only woman's name on the list, as we find in 1815 list the name of Miss Hill in place of her father. Also in list of payments the names of Mrs. Sluny, Fort Niagara N.Y., 6s., Mrs. Stuart, one year 15s.

Members in Town were now allowed to take out two books at once, 500 tickets were to be procured with all convenient speed to continue the number to be pasted on each book as entered.

"At annual meeting, No.8, 1807, shares to be sold at \$7.00 each. Resolved, that one hundred copies of the catalogue be printed, and one copy to be given to each proprietor, and also one hundred copies of an abridgement of the laws, if it can be got done on reasonable terms."

"A contingent meeting, 24th Oct. 1807. Present, Alex. McKie, Wm. Mann, Robert Kerr, Jas. Muirhead, Geo. Reid, John Grier. Ralfe Clench, Esq., offers to take charge of the library on being allowed his proportion of the annual payment. Resolved, that his proposal be accepted if he keep the Library open from 10 to 12 o'clock every day, Sundays excepted. Ordered, that Mr. Jas. Turlin's proposal to make a book case, the same as

we have, for \$12, be accepted." The first book case was £5 2s., so that prices must have decreased.

"A contingent meeting, August 1st, 1808. Andrew Heron having prepared a room for the library and offers to perform the duties of librarian, and be answerable for the books that may be missing as usual. Ordered, that his offer, be cheerfully accepted. N.B. - Mr. Clench refusing to give up a *key* to the library, A. Heron will not be responsible for the books that may be missing.

From October, 1807, the entries of books are in an entirely different hand, but Mr. Heron still visited the loved books, for the name frequently occurs, and the next year, the entries go in the same large hand. The little difficulty of the key must have been settled. In the catalogue, books 568 to 611 are entered in a different hand, which is the period of Mr. Clench being in office.

Annual meeting, No. 9, August 15th, 1808. The new trustees are Hon. Robt. Hamilton and Mr. Jno. Symington. Members out of town to be entitled to three books at a time. "Resolved, that Andrew Heron be librarian and treasurer."

Annual meeting, No. 10, August 15th, 1809. Rev. Jno. Burns, minister of St. Andrew's and John Powell to be two new trustees, and in place of Hon.R. Hamilton, deceased, and John Wagstaff. Shares to be sold at eight dollars. Whether from the liberality of Mr. Heron in providing a room, or from the length of his service, or some other reason not known, at this meeting it was "Resolved that the librarian be entitled to receive 25% of all the money collected from non subscribers and fines."; the additional title of clerk is now also given, thus, "A. Heron to be librarian, treasurer and clerk."

Annual meeting No. 11, 15th August, 1810. "Resolved, that attendance on the library be required only one hour, from eleven to twelve on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays in every week."

Annual meeting, 15th August, 1811. The trustees this year are James Crooks, George Reid, Rev. John Burns, John Powell, James Muirhead and Martin McLellan. Shares are sold at \$9 - \$1 to be paid by each proprietor and \$3 by others, or \$1 a quarter.

Annual meeting, No. 13, August 15th, 1812. Proprietors to pay \$2 each. Books admitted at a contingent meeting 15th November, 1812, shortly after burial of Brock; books admitted 781 to 827.

The next entry is 15th August, 1815. What a different state of affairs from that of 1812, when war had been declared and Brock was marching to Detroit; or from 1813, when an enemy held the town; or 1814, when

the rubbish of bricks was being taken to build Fort Mississauga! But with intrepid courage our trustees meet and make arrangements for the work of the library going on as usual. The Trustees were John Symington, George Young, James Crooks, John Burns, George Reid, Andrew Heron. Notwithstanding all the losses, incurred by the townspeople, the charges are made somewhat higher, each proprietor to pay \$2.50. Shares to be sold at \$9, and non-proprietors \$4 a year, or \$1.50 a quarter, or \$1 a month. At a meeting, 22nd January 1816, books admitted, 882 to 900.

Annual meeting, No. 15, August 15, 1816. "Resolved that John Wray be librarian and clerk."

Quarterly meeting, 9th October, 1816. Books admitted, 901 to 909.

Annual meeting, No. 16, August 16, 1817. "Resolved, that the meeting being thin that no new trustees shall be chosen, and shall remain to act as last year. Shares to be sold at \$10." There seems to have been some difficulty about books circulating too much, as witness the next: "Resolved that any proprietor or other person who receives books out of the library and allows any person to take them out of his house shall for every offence, pay to the librarian £1 Currency."

Annual meeting, No. 17, August 15, 1818. "Resolved, that the meeting being thinly attended, no new trustees shall be chosen. All regulations remain as last year."

At a Meeting of the trustees, held on 1st March, 1820, present, John Burns, George Young, James Crooks, and And. Heron. "Resolved, that whereas Andrew Heron offered to take charge of the books belonging to the library, that the books shall be transmitted to his house with all convenient speed, and shall there be inspected by Andrew Heron and James Crooks as soon as can be conveniently done."

Here is the record of the last meeting of the trustees of this library "Whereas the Niagara library has been greatly wasted, first by being plundered by the army of the United States, and has since been greatly neglected, very few of the proprietors having paid their quota to support the same, we, whose names are hereunto subscribed, hereby relinquish our claims on the same to Andrew Heron (who has now opened a library of his own for the use of the public) in consideration of his allowing us the use of his library for three years; this he engages to do to all those who have paid up their yearly contributions to the year 1817 inclusive; to those who have not paid to that period he will allow according to their deficiency in those payments. We consider those propositions as quite fair, and do thereto assent."

Jas. Crooks,  
J. Muirhead,

Jno. McEwan,  
J. Butler,

Jno. Symington,  
Jno. Wagstaff,

Geo. Young,  
Jno. Grier,

John Powell

In turning now to the account of money expended and received, it tells something of the love of books, in those days that, from the year 1801 to 1818, there was expended on books for this library about £500 the first outlay being £46, 17s. on August 15th, 1800. The record book itself cost \$1, and Mr. Tiffany received for printing £1.4s. In reading the rather monotonous account of money paid yearly, monthly or quarterly, we sometimes meet with a pleasing variety, as books sold by vendue, spelled vandue, fine for detain books, money to replace a book lost, books and tracts presented, a book of sermons sold to some sermon reader. The list, scattered over many pages, of money expended for books is interesting.

£ s. d.	<b>Subscriptions Paid</b>	£ s. d.
1801..... 46 17 0	1801 --- 4l subscribers.....	49 4 0
1802..... 27 4 6	1801 --- 5s. from 35 subscribers.....	8 15 0
1803---4..... 92 10 6	1807 --- 5s. " 41 proprietors.....	10 5 0
1805..... 34 8 1	1808 ---10s. " 44 " .....	22 0 0
1806..... 36 8 0	1809 ---10s " 42 " .....	21 0 0
1807..... 20 19 3	1810 ---10s " 44 " .....	22 0 0
1808-9..... 20 13 3	1811 ---10s " 45 " .....	21 5 0
1810..... 31 12 6	1812 --- 5s " 42.....	10 10 0
1811 ..... 43 4 3	1815 --- \$2 " 25.....	12 10 0
1812 ..... 21 16 6	1816 --- 12s. 6d. " 13.....	8 2 6
1815 ..... 24 4 6	1817 --- 12s. 6d. " 15.....	9 7 6
1816..... 15 5 6	1818 --- 12s. 6d. " 8.....	5 0 0
1817..... 43 6 7		
1818 ..... 17 2 6		

This sum of £500 does not give all the outlay for books, as many single books are entered alone and not in this way. The modest emolument of the librarian may be seen in the following list, culled from many pages, he receiving a per centage on all sums paid by non-subscribers and fines, the sum varying from 5s. 7d. one year to £6, but generally less than £2, the whole payment to Librarian during these twenty years being £24, so that he must indeed have been a labour of love.

	£ s.		£. s. d.
In 1804 – 12½ per cent. on.....	11	equals	1 7 6
1805 – 12½ per cent. on.....	11	"	1 7 6
1806 – 12½ per cent. on .....	9	"	1 2 6
1807 – 12½ per cent. on.....	9	"	1 2 6



	£	s.		£.	s.	d.
1808 – 12½ per cent. on.....	6	5	equals	13	6	
1809 – 12½ per cent. on.....	10		“	1	5	0
1810 – 25 per cent. on.....	9		“	2	5	0
1811 – 25 per cent. on.....	10	10	“	2	12	6
1812 – 25 per cent. on.....	10	10	“	2	12	6
1815 – 25 per cent, on.....	24	0	“	6	0	0
1817 – 12 ½ per cent, on.....	2	5	“		5	7
1818 – 25 per cent, on.....	13	15	“	3	8	9

It would be interesting to us to know how so many books were saved. It is known where Mr. Heron lived in at the time of war. The story is told that his wife, with infant, was carried out on the street from a house in the centre of the town. It is likely, as there were forty subscribers and perhaps as many more non-subscribers, and each person might have out three books, there could be two hundred books in circulation, many of which might come back. Then as many articles of furniture were saved, being carried out to the street, many of the books might be saved from the library. The new catalogue gives a list of two hundred with spaces left between. The spaces I at first thought represented books missing, but I have now concluded that the numbers given represent books bought to replace the old ones burnt or lost, as very often the prices are different from the first catalogue, and that the spaces represent books either in the library or if lost not replaced, as in the list of issues of books after the war may numbers occur represents books in these spaces.

It may be worth recording, as forming another link in the history of our library, a strange coincidence which occurred while writing this paper, by which one of the books was heard from. So far, I had not met a single person who had ever heard of the existence of the library, but calling on an old lady resident of the Town, to inquire about it, a postal card was produced, received that day from Ancaster with the question, "Can you tell me anything of a public library in Niagara when the Town was burnt, as I have a book which was the only one saved from the fire." I have since then seen the book. It is number 51 in the catalogue, Blossoms of Morality, or Blossom on Morality, and is remembered by the owner as charred with fire; but these burnt leaves are now torn away, and on an inner page is written, "This book was saved by my Father who was an Officer in the British Army when the Town was burnt, December, 1813. The only book saved from the library. Thomas Taylor." As a matter of fact, it is the only book in existence of which we know anything, but it might be worth inquiry if other books can be found belonging to the library, or what became of the library after it came into the hands of Mr. Heron. We know that he kept a bookstore and published the Gleaner newspaper, bound copies of which for the year 1818 are in homes in the town. Also a copy of Mavor's spelling-book printed by him, with catechism of Church of England at the end,

second edition, date not plain, but some time after 1800. On another sheet of the record book, headed subscription paper number two, the exact words of the first page of book are copied and the names John Wagstaff, Richard Cockrell, James Hyslop, Wm. Musgrove, Lewis Clement, Wm. Ball, Wm. Forsythe, Wm. Robertson, Alex. Rogers, Andrew Brady, Jas. Patterson, 16th August, 1815: to these are added afterwards A. Heron, T. Symington, P. Ball, W. Hodgkins, T. Jones, J. Muirhead, George Young., W. Burtch, John Robinson, George Reid, Geo. Havens, J. McEwan, Miss Hill. In 1816, names added are, Thos. Butler, Jas. Heron - a sadly diminished list of twenty-seven.

It is intensely interesting to follow all the different division of contents through so many years. There was no meeting in 1813, 1814, 1819. Books were taken out up to May 24th, three days before the town was taken. John Dodd paid 5s. and Capt. Roxborough 5s. There are few records while in possession of the U.S. Troops, but some money was paid and a few books taken out. "June 18th, 1813, Capt. Dormam, U.S. made a payment, three months 5s." (there was a Wm. Dorman in first list of proprietors). In 1814, March, J. Rea, Ensign, 100th Regt., 10s., and the names of John Valentine, 100th Regt., and John Gibson, Field Train Department. Then in 1815 different payments from officers, as Col. Preddy, Col. Harvey, W.E. Athinleck, Hospital Asst. Then Dep. Asst. Com. Gen. Lane, Capt. McQueen, Major Montgomery, Major Campbell, Lieut. Vigoreux, Col. St. George, Thos. Cummins, Sergt. 41st Reg't., Capt. Claus, Capt. Lyons, Lieut. Vanderverter, Ensign Winder, Capt. Saunders, Capt. Reid, of Fort Niagara, Sergt. Jenkins, Fort Niagara, Dr. West, Fort Niagara, had a share in 1806. Many strange names occur. In the course of my reading the other day occurred the name of Jedediah Prendergast, and singularly enough from the thick, yellow pages of this record stands out conspicuously this identical name, Jedediah Prendergast. But in the list of money paid we find Dr. Prendergast, also the names of John Easterbrook, Benj. Wintermute, Louis Dufresne. It is singular that the accounts are kept partly in Halifax currency, partly in York currency, and partly in dollars and cents. In the pages carefully ruled for proprietors, different years, the yearly payment is given as 10s. or 5s. as the case may be, while in the other list these are entered 16s. and 8s. In many cases the right of proprietorship is transferred to another. In 1815, several books are bought to replace those missing, such as Spectator, Burn's works, Don Quixote, and in 1816, Joseph Andrews, Robertson's America, Watt's Improvement, Humphrey Clinker, Children of the Abbey, Josephus, Walker's Sermons, but Porteous' Sermons sold for 10s. In 1816, "by amount of books sold at vandue, £27, 12s, 1d., N.Y. cy., £17, 5s, 1d." In 1817, received for damage done to Life of Wellington, 17s, 6d., Blackstone's commentaries, old copy, paid for being lost £1, 19s." These seem high prices for injury to books. "December 17th, 1804, received from Pte. Nicklon, a fine for keeping a book eighteen

weeks at 6d. sterling, 14s, 4d." Poor private, the law said 6d. currency, but from his scanty pay, he is compelled to disburse this heavy tax.

One entry defeated every effort to decipher it till a happy guess makes it read, "November 12th, 1815. To a Gownd to Mrs. Nulin for taking care of books, 15s. 6d." Happy Mrs. Nulin, were she fond of reading, for not only might she gratify her inclination, but she also receives a *Gownd* as a reward. There seems in the last years to be a deficit, expressed as balance due A. Heron, £11 9s. 9d. in 1818, showing our treasurer to have been a man of means, as shown also in the record book of St. Andrew's Church, of which he was treasurer, when there was a balance due him of £176. The last entries are, "By cash received from Mr. Smith for detain of books over the limited time. April 19th, 1819, 7s. 6d. Aug. 18th, By cash, Mr. Crysler, for detain of books over the limited time, 5s." There are frequent entries of books presented, also tracts. In the catalogue No. 444 is Abelard and Heloise, presented by Mr. Alexander Campbell, student-at-law. There are altogether 102 names of proprietors, the largest at any time being 45, in 1811, and the smallest eight in 1818. Among the books in the catalogue are, in poetry, Pope's Works, 10 volumes, £2,10s.; Shakespeare's, 8 volumes £2, 12s.; Milton, Johnson, Dryden, Virgil, Thomson, Spenser, Ramsey, Burns, Scott. Fifty volumes on Agriculture, many of them are expensive works, came in, 348-398 from Agricultural Society, although in report for 1892, Hon. John Dryden said the first Agricultural Society was formed in 1825.

Hume's History of England, continued by Smollet, 21 volumes £7.4s.; Bruce's Travels, eight volumes, £7 4s., also Cook's and Anson's Voyages. The library was especially rich in works of travel and in magazines; regularly every year are catalogued, European Magazine, Edinburgh Magazine, Edinburgh Review, Scot's Magazine, Lady's Magazine, British Critic, Annual-Register. The British Theatre, 25 volumes, £11, might cause some of our book committees to hesitate in those days, though it staggered not only brave proprietors of those early times. Altogether we think we have much reason to congratulate these pioneers of civilization in this peninsula that such a taste was shown for reading of such a high order, and express the hope that the libraries of the future may be as well selected, that the public may make as great sacrifices and support as liberally these aids to culture, and that many such secretaries and treasurers may be found willing to give time and faithful service to secure good literature, not only for the present but to hand down to those to come.

A few words may be pardoned in relation to other libraries in the town. A most interesting and valuable collection of books is to be found in the Rectory of St. Mark's Church, consisting of about a thousand volumes, with many folio editions quite rare. These were formerly the property of Rev. Robert Addison, sent out by S.P.G. Days-nay, months-might be pleasantly spent in loving examination of these rare editions from Leyden,

Oxford, Geneva. Well was it that they were not in any house in town in December, 1813, but being at Lake Lodge (about three miles out in a log house, part of which may yet be seen) they were saved. They were lately in possession of Dr. Stevenson, but by the zeal of the Venerable Archdeacon McMurray they were procured and placed in the rectory. Every book has placed in it this inscription: "Presented to St. Mark's Church by the heirs of Rev. Robert Addison, to be the property of that Church in perpetuity." There are altogether fifty-three folio volumes, many of them being specially interesting. One of these, the complete works of George Buchanan, 1715, poems, Latin Works, History of Scotland, a Satyr on Laird of Lydington, printed 1570, all in one volume, Hooker's Ecclesiastical Polity, 1598. One folio has been well or rather much used; it is Historical, Geographical and Poetical Dictionary, 1694. No doubt many came, allowed by the kind old man, to consult its pages. On the first leaf, these words show that there were in those days restrictions on the publications of books (these were not removed till the time of William III); "Whitehall, 28th January, 1691-2. I do allow this work to be printed. Sydney." Jeremy Taylor, Polemical and Moral Discourses, 1657; Burneton, 39 articles 1700; Machiavelli's Works, 1680; Spottiswood's History of Scotland, 1666; Fuller's Holy State, 1642; Montague's Essays, 1632; Fiddes' Life of Cardinal Wolsey, 1724, with copper plates, one being View of Kitchen of Cardinal's Cottage, Christ Church. Another volume is Historical Collection, Rushworth, 1659, with strange picture of James I., and the awe-inspiring legend, "Touch not mine anointed." bringing up thoughts of the length to which this doctrine was carried by that unhappy race. A prayerbook, Breeches Bible, 1599, in Black letter and Psalms, version of Sternhold and John Hopkins, all bound together. In the prayer book is the prayer offered "That it may please thee to bless and preserve our Most Gracious Sovereign Queen Mary, Prince Charles and the rest of the *Royal Progenie*," This book has been rebound in vellum.

Other works are Xenophon's Cyrus, 1713; Virgil, 1576; Quintillion, Oxford, 1692; Tillotson, 1675; Poli, Synopsis, London (Poole's), 1669; five volumes, folio, Matthew's Commentaries; Plutarch's Morals, 1603; Xenophon's Cyrus, Cicero's works in Latin. A few others at random --- Shakespeare, 1771; Spectator, 1726; Jonathan Edwards, 1699; Cicero's Orations, 1590; Lord Clarendon's, 1676; Latin Funeral Orations, 1611; Greek Grammar, 1683; Pope's Illiad, 1721; Erasmus, Rotterdam, 1526; New Testament (French), Geneva, 1577; Pliny's Epistles, 1640; Stillingfleet, 1681; Jeremy Taylor, 1676; Virgil, 1613; Plutarch's Morals, 1603; St. Augustus' City of God, 1610.

Another library, that of St. Andrew's Church, singularly enough also numbering about 1,000 volumes as the two already referred to, came into existence Aug. 26th, 1833, and here we see the name of Andrew Heron in the issue of books. There is an index with reference to pages, 214

names, from 1833 to 1869, up to folio 274. Up to 1836, there are 120 names, showing that a large number of families attended St. Andrew's Church. There was a catalogue costing 7½d. in 1835, and memorandum of copies sold up to 1843. The catalogue numbers 919 books. The only names on the list now attending the church are McFarland, Elliott, Davidson, Blake, Wynn, Carnochan. The first name is, as in Niagara Public Library, Andrew Heron. In 1836 occurs the name of one who afterwards became one of the Fathers of Confederation, Archibald McKellar. He attended the Niagara District Grammar School, was married by Rev. Dr. McGill; there are only two books marked against his name.

Many memories of the past are brought up by the names Barr, Lockhart, Crooks, Stocking, Whitelaw, Eaglesum, Wagstaff, Miller, Malcolmson, McMicking. Many books were presented by friends in Scotland, but there are only a few old or rare books. The Harper's Library Series seem to have been well read. It may be recorded as worthy of notice that in the old record book of St. Andrew's Church, dating from 1794, many of the names of the supporters are also found in the list of proprietors of the Niagara Library, 1800, showing the love of reading always remarked of the nationality most found in the Presbyterian Church.

The successor to these libraries is the Niagara Mechanics' Institute, having been in existence since October 24th, 1848, as a copy of the constitution and by-laws printed by F. M. Whitelaw, with names of members, one hundred and one, shows: Pres. W. H. Dickson, M.P.P.; Vice-President E. C. Campbell; Secretary, Dr. Melville; Treasurer and Librarian, W. F. G. Downs. Among the committee are Thos. Eedson, John Simpson, Jas. Boulton, J. D. Latouche, B.A.; Sam Risley, Jno. Whitelaw. There is also a catalogue printed by Wm. Kirby in 1861, then numbering about 1,000 volumes. The library has gone through many vicissitudes; being closed for some time, it was greatly revived through the exertions of Dr. Withrow, while a resident of Niagara, and has always owed much to the great interest shown in it by Wm. Kirby, F.R.S.C. It now numbers 4,000 volumes and has received much praise for its judicious selection of books.

When we think of the influence in any community of a good Library, of the pleasure and profit derived, we think of the words of Ruskin. "We may have in our bookcases, the company of the good, the noble, the wise. Here is an *entree* to the best society. Do you ask to be the companions of nobles, make yourself noble; you must rise to the level of their thoughts, to enter this court with its society, wide as the world, multitudinous as its days; the chosen and the mighty of every place and time, here you may always enter. Into this select company no wealth will bribe no name overawe; you must fit yourself by labour and merit to understand the thoughts of these great minds. You must love them and become like them." Judge, then, how much the people of this vicinity owe to the proprietors of the

Niagara Public Library, furnishing to the young people of so many households reading of so high an order, fitting them to fight manfully the great battle of life.

The following notes have been added:

Martin McLellan was killed at the taking of the Town, 17th April, 1813; Robert Nelles lived at "The Forty" now Grimsby; Daniel Servos was one of Butler's Rangers; Thomas Butler was the son of Col. John Butler; R. C. Cockrell was perhaps the first Grammar School teacher in Niagara; John Wray was the Clerk of St. Mark's for fifty years as told on his tombstone. Much could be written of other names in the list. In connection with the Agricultural society, we find that Gov. Simcoe contributed 10 guineas in 1793; in the diary of Col. Clark, in possession of his son, Dr. Clark, St. Catharines, is mentioned, that at the monthly dinner, the great silver snuff box, ornamented with the horn of plenty, remained with the housekeeper who had to supply the next monthly dinner to the Agricultural Society and was the property of the President, *pro tem* for the year, and then passed into the hands of the next President. Query: Where is it now?

Since this paper was written a book has been found which is now in the possession of the Niagara Historical Society, with the label, "Niagara Library, No. 81." It is Matthew Henry's Communicant's Companion, 1799, and is found in the catalogue thus described. Had the label been destroyed the book to us would have been of no value as a relic of the Library. In Niagara Gleaner, 1819, we find an advertisement regarding a circulating library, very severe rules are given, dire penalties to be levied on those who turned a leaf down, defaced or lost a book. It is likely that the books ere sold at the death of Mr. Heron and thus dispersed.

The Niagara Public Library celebrated the fiftieth Anniversary in December, 1898. It was then found that Mr. Henry Paffard had been Treasurer for thirty-three years and Mr. Kirby, President for twenty-five years, such length of service is a unique circumstance in the history of the Public Libraries of the country. The portraits of these gentlemen were placed on the walls of the Library.

The Library now in 1920 has 9000 volumes.

## CATALOGUE OF BOOKS

*Received into Library 2nd March, 1801 - 1 to 80.*

- |                            |                                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1, 2, 3---Blair's Sermons. | 12---Smith's Prophecy.          |
| 4, 5---Walker's Sermons.   | 13---Watt on Son of God.        |
| 6, 7, 8---Divine Economy.  | 14--- " Improvement of<br>mind. |
| 9, 10---Fordyce's Sermons. | 15--- " Memoirs.                |
| 11---Newton's Prophecy.    |                                 |

- 16---Watt Holy War.  
17---Dyer's -----  
18---Willison on the Sabbath.  
19---Boston's Character.  
20--- " Regeneration.  
21---Anderson on Psalmody.  
22---Cloud of Witnesses.  
23---Scott's Essays.  
24---Wilberforce's View.  
25---Rise and Progress of Religion in the Soul.  
26---Watson's Apology for bible.  
27---Watson's Apology Christianity.  
28---Religious Courtship.  
29---Owen on Trinity.  
30---Brown's Christian Journal.  
31---Burton's Feeling.  
32---Muirhead's Differentiations.  
33---Brown's Oracles in America.  
34---Robertson's History of America South £1 12s.  
35, 36---Robertson's History of South America.  
37---Stanton's Embassy to China.  
38, 39---Residence In France.  
40, 41---Morse's Geography.  
42---Bruce's Travels.  
43, 44---Citizen of the World.  
45, 46---Ossian's Poems.  
47---Campbell's Narration.  
48, 49---Crocker on -----  
50---Caroline Lichfield, (replaced in 3 vols.)  
51---Blossoms of Morality.  
52---Pleasures of Hope.  
53, 54---Mirror.  
55---Mental Improvement.  
56---Lady's Library.  
57---Cowper's Task.  
58, 60---Marvellous Magazine.  
61---Bennet's Lectures.  
62, 65---History of Jacobinism, £2.  
66, 67---Repository.  
68, 69---The Rambler, £1, 4s.  
70---Letters on Courtship.  
71---  
73---Story of Teller.  
74, 77---Emperor Charles V.  
78---Burk's Revolution.  
79---McIntosh's Revolution.  
80---A Letter to Burk  
81---Communicant's Companion.  
82, 89---Pope's Works, £2 10s.  
90---Milton's Works.  
91---Brydon's Tour.  
92---Indian Concert.  
93, 94---Burnet's Theory of Earth, £2.  
95---Robertson's Proofs.  
96---Young's Essays.  
97, 99---Robertson's History of Scotland.  
100---History of War in Asia.  
101 -2---Burk's European Settlement.  
103---Daniel and Revelation.  
104---Gospel its Own Witness.  
105---Duty of Female Sex.  
106-17---Rollins' History, £2 8s.  
118-19-20---Edinburgh Magazine, £3 18s.  
39---Omitted in its place and carried to page 13, act. current, Boston's Memoirs.  
121---Snodgrass' Revelation.  
122-24---Gillies' Greece, £2 12s.  
125-26---Moore's Letters.  
127-28---Moore's Journal.  
129-30---Fuller.  
131---Ray's Discourses.  
132---Taplin's Farriery.

- 133---Female Complaints.  
134-37---Well's Geography.  
138-39-40-41-History of British Admirals £2.  
142-43---Knox on Education.  
144---Paradise Regained.  
145---World Depths.  
146-47---Boderick's Travels.  
148---Constitution U. S.  
149---Tracts presented by Andrew Heron.  
150---History of Barbary.  
To-more allowed for History of Charles.  
151-52---Beattie's Essays.  
153-54---Lelands's Life of Philip.  
155-56---Bloody Tribunal.  
157---Bishop Burnet's History of His Own Times.  
158-59---Quintius Curtius' History of Alexander.  
160---Mendrill's Journey from Aleppo to Jerusalem.  
161---Judah Restored.  
162-63---Hervey's Meditation.  
164---Goldsmiths Rome.  
165---Adam's Views.  
166---New Pilgrim.  
167---Moral Repository.  
168---Colet's Discourses.  
169---Theological Magazine.  
170-71---N. Y. Missionary.  
172---Female Education.  
173---Seneca's Morals.  
174---Murray's Sequel.  
175---English Reader,  
176---Zimmerman on Solitude.  
177---Fuller's Gospel of the Bible.  
178---  
179---Mackenzie's Voyage.  
180-81---Morse's Gazetteer, £2.  
182---Key to the Prophecies.  
183---History of Iceland (presented by J. Young)  
184 -85---Forbes' Works.  
186-206---Hume's History of England, continued by Smollet (21 vols.) £7 4s.  
207-212---Hume's History of Scotland, £3 17s.  
213 -17---Ferguson's History of Rome, £4. 7s.  
218---Kinneard's Edinburgh.  
219---Heates' Pelew Islands.  
220---Robertson's India.  
221 -22---Prideaux Connection.  
223 -28---Josephus' Works, £2 2s.  
229 -33---Edinburgh Magazine, £5 12s.  
234 -36---Edinburgh Review.  
237 -40---Johnson's Lives.  
241 -48---Shakespeare's Works £2 12s.  
249 -52---Dryden's Vigil.  
253 -54---Silver Devil.  
257---Gonsalvo of Cordova.  
258---Joseph Andrews.  
259 -60---Humphrey Clinker.  
261 -62---Roderick Random.  
263---John Bull.  
264---Park's Travels.  
265 -70---British Tourists £2 17s.  
271 -72---Heron's Journey.  
273 -76---Hawkesworth's Voyages.  
277 -80---Cook's Voyages.  
281---Anson's Voyages.  
282 -83---Leland's Views.  
284 -86---Blair's Lectures.  
287---Erskin's Discourses.  
288---Campbell on Miracles.  
289---Wall's World to Come.  
290 -91---Beattie's Evidences.  
292---New York Magazine.  
293---Fuller.  
294---Thompson's Seasons  
295---Spenser's Shepherd.  
296---Sherlock on Providence.  
297---History of George III.  
298 -99---Knox's Essays.



- 300---Commerce of Ancients.  
301---Thoughts on State of Religion.  
302---Theological Magazine.  
303---Memoirs of Gen. -----  
304---Fletcher's Appeal.  
305---M. Magazine.  
306---Forsyth on Trees.  
307---N.Y. Missionary.  
308---Saint's Everlasting Rest.  
309---Gospel Sonnets.  
310---Rushe's Charges.  
311---Russian Empire.  
312---Robinson's.  
313-14---Telamachus' French and English.  
315---Aikin's Letters to his Son.  
316-18---Adolphus' George III.  
319-20---British Critic £3 5s.  
321-23---Edinburgh Review £1 16s.  
324-25---European Magazine £2 8s.  
326-27---Edinburgh Magazine £2 6s.  
328-29---Wilson's Egypt £2 4s.  
330-33---Pamela £2.  
334-36---Tom Jones 18s.  
337---Pictures of Palermo.  
338---Vicar of Wakefield.  
339-42---Burn's Works £3 15s.  
343---Percival's Ceylon £3, 12s.  
344---Barrington's N.S. Wales.  
345---Nisbet's Church History.  
346---State of Europe. Presented by Hon. Robert Hamilton.)  
347---Adams' Anecdotes.  
348-61---Young's Agriculturist, £10.  
362-66---Museum Rusticus, £3. 4s.  
367-68---Young's Tour in Ireland.  
369-74---Wright's Husbandry, £3 12s.  
375-76---Marshall's Midland County.  
377 -78---Adams' Agriculturist.  
379 -81---Doylin's "  
382 -83---Dickson's Husbandry.  
384---Hart's "  
385 -86---Anderson's Agriculturist.  
387---Gentleman Farmer.  
388 -92---Bath Papers.  
393 -94---Dickson's Agriculturist.  
395---Dublin Society.  
396---Small & Barrm.  
397---Hume on Agriculture.  
398 -99---Horne on the Psalms.  
400 -07---Spectator, £3 4s. £5 5s.  
N.Y. currency is in Canada currency £3 5s 7½d.  
408---Mills on Cattle.  
409 -10---Pallas' Travels in Russia  
411---Whitman's Travels in Syria.  
412 -13---Adolphus' History of France.  
414---Adolphus' Reflections.  
415 -16---Winterbottom's Sierra Leone.  
417---Card's Revolution of Russia.  
418---Pinkerton's Geography.  
419---Gordon's Rebellion.  
420---Population of Ireland.  
421---Divernois on the Five Provinces.  
422---Grant's Poems.  
423 -25---Palmerston's Letters.  
426---Scot's Magazine, 1804.  
427 -28---European "  
429 -33---Edinburgh Review.  
434---Sketches at Cape Good Hope.  
435---War in St. Domingo.  
436---Female Education.  
437---Simpson's Plea for Religion.  
438---Brown's Sermons.  
439---Religion of Greeks.  
440---History of Popes.

- 441---Abelard and Heloise (presented by Mr. Alex, Cameron, Student-at-Law.)  
442---Farmer's Boy.  
443-44---Marshall's Yorkshire.  
445---Tull's Husbandry.  
446---Court of St. Cloud.  
447---Scot's Edinburgh Magazine.  
448-53---Edinburgh Review.  
454-57---British Critic £4 10s.  
458-65---Bruce's Travels £7 4s.  
466-69---Blackstone's Commentaries.  
470---Grand's Voyages to N.S. Wales.  
471-72---Cyrus' Travels.  
473---McHinnem's Tour.  
474-79---Plutarch's Lives, £1 13s.  
480---Peyrmsis' Voyages.  
481-89---Witherspoons' Works £2, 8s.  
490---Sir H. Moncrieff's Sermons.  
491---Chatham's Letters.  
492---Mallory's Memoirs.  
493---Masson's Cookery.  
494---Lavater's Physiognomy.  
495-98---Don Quixote £1 18s.  
499-02---Arabian Nights.  
503-05---Edgeworth's Tales.  
506-10---Tales of the Castle.  
511-14---Peregrine Pickle.  
515---Estelle.  
516---Devil upon Two Sticks.  
517-18---Excessive Sensibility.  
519---Man of Feeling.  
520-22---Ramsay's Works.  
524---Tuckey's Voyages N.S. Wales.  
525---Edwards on Baptism.  
452-53---European Magazine omitted.  
526-28---Plains.  
529-31---History of France.  
532---Musical Repository  
533---Speechly on the Vine.  
534---Selkirk on Emigration.  
535---Fisher's Travels in Spain.  
536---Bigland's Modern Europe.  
537---Michavois Travels.  
538---Scot's Magazine.  
539-40---European Magazine.  
541---Lady's Magaine.  
542-45---Edinburgh Review.  
546---Jackson on the Mediterranean.  
547---Hinchley's Fall of Venice.  
548-49---Repton's Odd Whims.  
550-51---Father's Gift.  
552-55---Children of the Abbey.  
556---Lucas on Duelling.  
557---Bravo of Venice.  
558-60---Count de Valmont.  
561-63---Men and Women.  
564--- of Seduction.  
565-66--- Tour of  
567--- Sermons.  
568-79---Henry's History of Great Britain £6 15s.  
580-83---Edinburgh Review.  
584-85---Scotch Magazine.  
586-88---Annals of Great Britain.  
589-90---Dick's Selections.  
591---Cook on the Resurrection.  
592-93---Robertson on Atmosphere  
594---Trevanion.  
598---History of Masonry.  
599-01---Kaine's Sketches.  
602-03---Malthus on Population.  
604-11---Goldsmith's Animated Nature, £2.  
612-14---State of the Times.  
615---Scotch Magazine.  
616-17---European Magazine.  
618---Lady's Magazine.  
619-20---British Critic, £2 8s.  
621-23---Edinburgh Review.

- 624-26---Smith's Wealth of Nations.  
627-29---Ferguson's Lectures.  
630-33---Sinclair on Longevity.  
634-36---Pickard's West Indies.  
637---Public Characters 1809-10.  
638-40---Lounger.  
641---Lives of British Naval Heroes.  
642---Stewart's Philosophy of Mind.  
643-46---Gil Blas.  
647-49---Owen on the Spirit.  
650-51---Gilpin's Lives of Reformers.  
652-59---British Plutarch.  
660---Mason on Self-Knowledge  
661---New Picture of Edinburgh  
662---Sterne's Sentimental Journey.  
664---Saville's Dissertation.  
665---Pilgrim's Progress.  
666---The Mountain Bard.  
667-70---Medical Journal £3 11s.  
671-75---Food of Quality.  
676---Chesterfield's.  
677---Scotch Magazine 1809.  
678-79---European Magazine.  
680---Lady's Magazine.  
681-82---British Critic.  
683-86---Edinburgh Review.  
687-711--British Theatre, 25 vols. £11.  
712-15---Cutorell's Gazetteer £5.  
716---General Atlas £2 5s.  
717-18---Craig's Sermons.  
719---Moore's Tales.  
720-21---Thorton's Turkey.  
722-29---Enfield's Encyclopaedia.  
730-31---Count Fathom.  
732---Vice on Atheism.  
733-34---More's Utopia.  
735---Cottagers of Glenburnie.  
736---Adventures of D-----.  
737-40---Adventures of a Guinea.  
741-43---Belinda £1 2s. 6d.  
744-45---Caroline of -----  
746---  
747---Letters from a Loyalist.  
748---Hill's Life of Dr. Blair.  
749---Life of Buchanan.  
750-51---Clarkson on the Slave Trade.  
752---Resources of Britain.  
753---Scotch Magazine.  
754-55---European “  
756---Lady's “  
757-58---British Critic, £2 8s.  
759-62---Edinburgh Review.  
763-64---Porteous' Sermons.  
765---Moorehead's Discourses.  
766---Gray's Letters.  
767-68---History of Chili.  
769---Trotter on Drunkenness.  
770-72---Letters from the Mountains.  
773---Letters of Swedish Court.  
774---Twin Sisters.  
775-82---Clarissa Harlowe, £2, 15s.  
783---Man of the World.  
784---Paul and Virginia.  
785-86---History of St. Helena.  
787-89---Edgeworth's Tales of Fashionable life £1 8s. 6d.  
790---History of Charles XII.  
791---Scotch Magazine.  
792-93---European “  
794---Lady's “  
795-96---British Critic.  
797-800--Edinburgh Review.  
801- 2---New Annual Register.  
803- 8---Gifford's Life of Pitt, £6 6s.  
809-43---Camilla, £1 14s.  
814---Description of 300 Animals.  
815-17---West's Letters to Young Men.

- 818 - Park's Rudiments of  
Chemistry.
- 819-20---Tolney's Travels.
- 821-22---Walker's Sermons.  
823---Lady of the Lake.  
824---Island of Jamaica.
- 825-27---Tristram Shandy.
- 828-35---Edgeworth's Moral Tales.
- 836-37---British Critic £2.
- 838-39---British Critic 1813 £2.
- 840-41---Edinburgh Annual Re-  
gister.
- 842-43---Edinburgh Annual Re-  
gister £2.  
844---Scotch Magazine 1812.
- 845-47---Scotch Magazine 1813,  
1814.
- 848-49---European Magazine.  
850---Lady's Magazine.
- 851-53---Edinburgh Review.  
854---British Critic.
- 855-56---Annual Register 1811.
- 857-61---Edinburgh Register.
- 862-63---Goldsmith's-----
- 864-67---Modern Geography.  
868---Savage New Zealand.  
869-70--- Magazine.
- 871---Castle of Otranto.
- 872---History of Otaheite.
- 873-74---History of the War.
- 875-77---Edinburgh Review.
- 878-79---Gordon's Ireland.
- 880-81---Edinburgh Review.
- 882-85---Young Philosopher.
- 886-87---Peregrine Proteus.
- 888-90---The Jesuit.
- 891-95---Scottish Chiefs £3 4s.  
906-8---Waverley.  
909---E. Annual Register.  
910---Scotch Magazine 1814.  
911-12---Scotch Magazine 1815.  
913---Clark's Life of Nelson.  
914---Colonial Policy.  
915-16---Life of Wellington £2.  
917---European Magazine.  
918-20---Scot's Magazine 1816.  
921---Lady's Magazine.  
922-27---Edinburgh Review.  
928---Annual Register.  
929---Annual Register 1815.  
930-31---European Magazine.  
932-33---Edinburgh Magazine.  
934---Lady's Magazine.  
935-37---Edinburgh Review.



This house, near the Western Home, is supposed by some to have been built before the war of 1812. It is a log building afterwards clapboarded, and contains five fire-places. For many years, previous to 1827 and subsequently, the private school of Miss Young was taught here.

A view taken of the kitchen fire-place with old fashioned crane will appear in next issue.

## THE EARLY SCHOOLS OF NIAGARA

---

*Read before the Ontario Educational Association, April 1897*

My subject is the Early Schools of Niagara, but for that term I would claim a broader meaning than that generally accepted. Hugh Miller in his "Schools and Schoolmasters" goes far beyond the schoolhouse and its pedagogue, as does also Dr. Hodgins in his "Documentary History of Education." We read of the School of adversity which gives a training found in no other school, and we all know what useful inventions have been produced by the School of Necessity. Perhaps no place in Ontario has in its early history given greater scope for development of character from the peculiar surroundings, than Niagara. The most of those who came here were people of fixed ideas, who had suffered and were ready to suffer to maintain their opinions, subjected to a life of toil, war with the soil, with forest enemies both man and brute, and as the many influences which served to make Hugh Miller, the stalwart, honourable, thinking man into which he developed we may claim for the early inhabitants of the town and their children, peculiar influences which no doubt helped to develop certain traits of character. To conquer difficulties, to be obliged to be alert watchful, on guard, to know that the soil we tread has been watered with the blood of our forefathers, that every turf may be or has been a "soldier's sepulchre," to rebuild the ruined homes, to see returning prosperity torn from our grasp, and stagnation again, all these have told, as well as the scholastic institutions of the Town. Other educative influences may be referred to later on.

To go back a period of a hundred years ought not to be so difficult a task, but in this case, it presents almost as insuperable difficulties as trying to piece out the personal life of the great dramatist. How strange that while of many Romans who lived 2,000 years ago, as of Pliny, we have letters and personal descriptions, of one who lived scarce three hundred years ago, we have not a letter and only lone, to him, and yet millions of people know him by his works, and so we find it difficult to obtain accounts of some of our early educators, so many records having been burnt in the War, so shifting has the population been from the many vicissitudes of the Town, but by dint of newspaper items, here and there an extract from the Archives of Canada, some valuable old letters and documents, account books, the tales of the "oldest inhabitant" who tells the story of his father,

we are able to piece out a tolerably correct sketch of our Schools and Schoolmasters, it must be confessed with gaps here and there which it is hoped may be yet filled, now that our Historical Societies have really set to work in earnest. There were private schools, garrison schools, the district grammar school and the district school, church schools, separate schools, ladies' schools, classical schools, night schools, boarding schools, schools for colored children, dames' schools, the Fort school and many others. In the diary of Col. Clarke, father of Dr. Clarke of St. Catharines, he speaks of attending the Garrison School at Fort Niagara in 1787; the fort was not given up to the Americans till 1796. When he came to the British side of the river, the best teacher he went to was Richard Cockerell, an Englishman, who we read opened a school at Niagara in 1797. In the newspaper of that date, he advertises an Evening School, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping taught at four shillings a week. For teaching any branch of practical or speculative mathematics, eight dollars, hours from six to eight in the evening. In 1799, he removed to Ancaster, and in resigning thanks the public for their support, and recommends the Rev. Mr. Arthur, who teaches Latin and Greek, and will take a few young gentlemen to board.

The first provision made for Grammar School education in Upper Canada was by the Duke of Portland in 1797, but we find that sufficient credit has not been given to Governor Simcoe for the noble part he played in providing educational advantages for this new country. In different letters from Navy Hall, Niagara he had thought on the subject, and what strenuous efforts were made by him for this end. On 23rd Nov., 1792, in a letter to Secretary Dundas, he speaks of a provision for the education of the rising generation and in 1793, to the Bishop of Quebec in asking for clergymen, says that in his progress through the country, he is told that the Sabbath is becoming unknown to their children, who are searching for amusements on the Lord's Day. Again in 1795, he urges the Duke of Portland thus: "In Niagara, the want of a school is most visible." The Rev. Addison is willing to undertake it on same terms as Mr. Stuart at Kingston. In the reply of Portland, fancy the feelings of those asking for a school for their children, being told that the payment of a teacher ought to be very moderate, and that all the subjects necessary are reading, writing, accounts and mensuration, that those wishing to study Greek and Latin may go to Montreal, or Quebec, or Nova Scotia. Were his ideas of the topography of Canada as hazy as those of some of our neighbours of the present day?

In 1797, Mr. Jas. Blayney advertises a School in Niagara, and in 1798 the house of Mr. D.W. Smith is offered for sale for a free Grammar School for Home District, with four acres as endowment. Recommended in letter from Russel at York. This drags on, as in 1800 he offers a reduction of \$4,000 in price, and to take wild land in payment. The plan is opposed by Governor Hunter, one reason being given that the house is opposite Fort Niagara, and being in range of the guns from Fort Niagara, is in too

exposed a position. In 1802 Mr. & Mrs. Tyler, between Niagara and Queenston, advertise a regular day and night school, "children from four, both sexes, price in proportion to the kind of instruction, reading, writing, and arithmetic taught, for young ladies, all that is necessary for their sex to appear decently and be useful in the world and in all that concerns housekeeping. Mrs. Tyler, having been bred in the line of mantua making, will receive and do her endeavours to execute her work in the neatest manner;" an advertisement really more comprehensive than at first sight it appears. In the record book of St. Andrew's Church, commencing 30th Sept., 1794, there are frequent references to teachers in connection with the church, thus: "Sept. 2nd, 1802, the Rev. Jno. Young, from the city of Montreal, was engaged at one hundred pounds, Halifax currency, and a dwelling house, also to have the teaching of a school exclusive of his salary as a preacher of the gospel." On the 13th April, 1805, resolved, "that this meeting do fully authorize and empower the persons that may be nominated as aforesaid to offer as a salary for three years to a preacher, the sum of seventy-five pounds of lawful money of Upper Canada, provided he may be induced to teach thirteen scholars in the Latin, Greek and Mathematics." Why thirteen, we do not know. In 1802 it is proposed to erect an Academy in the town, and in 1803 we read that R. Cockrell has an excellent mathematical school at Niagara. E.A. Talbot, who writes on State of Education, in 1818, says there are only two schools of any note in Upper Canada, that of Strachan and Cockrell, which is high praise for the latter.

In a letter from Simcoe to Dundas, April 28, 1792, written from Quebec, he proposes two school masters at £100 each, one at Kingston and the other at Niagara, this before he had reached his future capital, and while living there planned for schools in the province. In 1797, steps were taken in Parliament to establish four Grammar Schools and a University, the schools to be at Cornwall, Kingston, Newark, Sandwich, and the University at York, now Toronto. By an act passed in 1807, £100 was to be allowed for each district. Niagara is the fourth oldest High School in the Province, having been founded in 1808, the three first being Cornwall, Kingston and York, founded in 1807. It has been called by different names, first, the Niagara District Grammar school; next, Niagara Country Grammar School; next, Senior County Grammar School, on this the Rev. T. Phillips always insisted, then Niagara High School. The seal has these words: Niagara County Grammar School, established 1808, incorporated 1853, and has on it the figures of a globe, telescope, quill pen, inkbottle, bell. It may be said that in later days, in a certain sense the existence of many of the small High Schools, depended on the Niagara High School, as when a bill was about to pass through the legislature which would have swept many of them out of existence, the Hon. S.H. Richards, who was in the Cabinet, and was the member for Niagara, seeing that his constituency would lose its High School, had such changes made in the bill as would prevent this,



and this many others were saved. "Honour to whom honour is due." It is believed that Rev. Jno. Burns, Presbyterian Minister, was the first teacher. He preached in St. Andrew's Church and sometimes at Stamford, from 1805 to 1818, at intervals, as his name appears on the record book in 1805, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18. Till lately there were several living who were his pupils both before and after the War of 1812. He was taken prisoner and it is said, preached to his captors. A sermon preached by him on the 3rd January, 1814, on a day proclaimed by the Governor as Thanksgiving, in Stamford Church shows powers of reasoning, a sturdy loyalty, sound scholarship and deep christian feeling. In the sermon, the text of which is Prov. 14, 21, he quotes the brave words of Nehemiah, "Be not afraid of them, remember the Lord who is great and terrible, and fight for you brethren, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your houses." To the Lundy's Lane Historical Society, we are indebted for this, as they have reprinted it as one of their pamphlets. The late Judge Burns was the son of this old Niagara Teacher and Preacher.

Now comes, as might be expected, almost a blank of several years. We learn that during the war, the schools were closed and while it is easy to see that in 1813 when the town was in the hands of the Americans, the British around in a circle, skirmishes occurred frequently, and in 1814 the people scattered in all directions, when a heap of ruins represented the homes from which had gone forth the children to the schools referred to, the records were lost and several years must elapse before schools would again be in operation. The Rev. Thos. Creen came in 1820, opened a private school and afterwards taught the Niagara District Grammar School, next becoming the Rector of St. Marks, but first the assistant to Rev. R. Addison. He was an excellent classical scholar, an Irishman, but educated at Glasgow University. He was also at a later date a trustee and an examiner of teachers. He taught many who afterwards became distinguished men, as Miles O'Reilley, Judge Burns, Judge Miller, Senator Dickson, Thos and W. Fuller, several of these pupils place a handsome tablet to his memory in St. Mark's Church. In the year 1823, there were eighty-five names on the register of the school, while in 1827 from the existence of two rival schools and the removal of a regiment, the number was only eighteen.

In the Niagara Gleaner, June 23rd, 1823, appears the following item, Niagara District Grammar School Examination. The following trustees were present and expressed their approval of the manner in which the different branches were taught, the increasing number of pupils and the progress made: Wm. Dickson, Rev. Robt. Addison, Rev. W. Leeming, Robert Ker, J. Muirhead, Ralfe Clench. The school was to re-open on 7th July, we thus see that the holidays lasted little over two weeks and through the sultry days of July and August the school work went on. On July 3rd, 1824, there was an account of an examination, at which the same trustees were present with the addition of Rev. Turney (Army Captain), and Hon.

Wm. Claus, and pleasure is expressed at the progress made. The number of pupils was forty, of whom four were studying Xenophon; five Horace and Cicero; three, Virgil and Sallust; eighteen, History and Geography, twelve grammar and arithmetic; and three, reading and writing. The Latin classes were put through their drill by the Rev. Robt. Addison, who seemed quite at home. He must then have been an old man. In 1824, Rev. T. Creen appears as Secretary of Common School Trustees. In 1823 had appeared a petition of the Common School teachers of the Niagara District, complaining of want of payment of their salaries, and the proceedings in the Legislature in consequence are recorded. In the Gleaner for 1826, August 12th, is this notice: "We have been requested by the Rev. Thos. Creen to state to the public that his school would be open for the instruction of youth, on Monday, 14th August." In the same paper, there is the advertisement of Rev. Mr. Hancock, A.B., graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, informing the public that he had opened an Academy for the instruction of youth in Greek, Latin, etc., at Butler's Barracks. He was Assistant Chaplain to the Forces at Niagara. Besides this, in the next year there is an advisement by Rev. Jas. Fraser, Minister of the Presbyterian congregation that he proposes to open a class for the various branches pertaining to the Literary professions. It would seem from this that there must have been at that date three schools in Niagara, where the study of classics was pursued. We, who remember the day when mathematics was *the* important study, and who also remember that in the words quoted by the President of the Educational Association, "A king arose who knew not Joseph," and English was given a more important place, recall with interest the days when Homer and Horace reigned supreme.

In 1823 in an advertisement, "Mr. Creen, District School, speaks of the prosperous condition and is about to employ an assistant, teaches Latin, Greek, Hebrew, English Grammar, Geography, Mathematics. Jan. 1823, report of Niagara District School, hopes in rather grandiloquent style that "literature at once the blessing and ornament of society will flourish here with increasing bloom and shine in its generous lustre." To open 7th July. We also find some excellent rules by Board of Education for Niagara Schools, Barron's 500 questions on New Testament are used in the Sunday School, and also in the District Grammar School.

Leaving this school we now turn to some other schools in the town. Besides that institution taught by Mr. Cockerell (which was at one time in a block house, the charge being one dollar a month) who is described as being very strict and who taught till 1806, and was succeeded by Mr. Hughes, there was a school taught by Mr. John Wray, described as a little old man by those who remember him. He died in 1846 at an advanced age, having been the Clerk of St. Mark's Church for fifty years. There was a school taught by Mr. McKie who was a classical scholar. This was a private school after the War, and his wife taught fancy work.

The School in connection with St. Andrew's Church was continued till 1843. An advertisement in the Gleaner, Dec. 1717, reads thus: "Saturday, 3rd day of January next is the day appointed for the annual meeting of the Presbyterian congregation in the town, to be held in the school house at 12 o'clock. At the same time will be produced the accounts of monies received and expended in building the schoolhouse. This building seems to have been used before the war as a schoolhouse, and after the war, on Sunday for divine worship, and for Sunday school, and on week days for a school, the upper part at one time having been used for the colored children. In 1840, at the annual meeting of the congregation, "Resolved, that the trustees and members of the Kirk Session be the committee for the management of the school kept by Mr. Jas. Webster, in the school house or church lots." On Jan. 1st., 1842, the Rev. Robert McGill made some statement regarding the act passed at the late session of the Provincial legislative, and pointed out the manner in which the trustees of the school in connection with the church might avail themselves of its provisions. Resolved, "that it is desirable to maintain the school under the management of the church trustees. Mr. Heron was appointed to wait upon Mr. Webster to ascertain how far he is disposed to put himself in dependence upon the provisions for common schools."

And now we turn, to what we can find of the backbone of our educational system. There have been several references to the Common School before. On the 9th Sept., 1826, there is a letter in the Gleaner strongly advocating the erection of a Public School house, as the population of the Town then was 1,200, and they had an able teacher in Mr. Thomson. In 1827, the Province had been divided into eleven Districts, with provision for a classical school in each, and for schools in each Township. On June 2nd, 1827, appears the following certificate, signed by Thos. Creen, and Thos. Hancock, A.B., "We have great pleasure in testifying to the ability and fitness, etc., of the teacher of the Niagara Common School, Mr. David Thomson. These are the Classes, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, four, Orthography, Reading, Writing, eight, Orthography Reading, six, Book Keeping, two, total twenty-five, and that Messrs. Heron, Kay and Varey had been duly elected Trustees of the District Common School. The fees were, after March 28th, Reading and Orthography 2s. 6d., or 50c., with writing added 62½ cts., and with arithmetic 75 cts. per month. A sparkle of color is given to these dry records, which pleases us much. Feb. 23rd., 1827, account of a collection that had been taken up from the pupils of Mr. Thomson's school in aid of the distressed Greeks, amount raised, 11s. 1½d. This it will be remembered was the year of the Battle of Navarino, and now after seventy years, the generous deed of these Niagara school children is recalled, as we are sending away our contributions to the Armenians, oppressed and barbarously treated by the same unspeakable Turk, but now the nations do not rise up as then the help the weak. The

teacher referred to was the same David Thompson who wrote a history of the War of 1812, Captain Thompson of the King's 8th., who fought in the war.

Among the names of early teachers are those of Mr. Rolston and Crombie. An account of some of the punishments of those days would make our present pupils stare in wonder and amaze. It is recorded of one teacher of the Town that he struck a boy on the head with a round ruler, one inch in diameter. The boy fell to the floor insensible, and was carried out to the snow to be revive. It is pleasing to know that the big boys of the school then did what so rejoiced the heart of the honest Yorkshireman, when Nicholas Nickleby so effectively "bate the schoolmeaster." The Teacher then removed to Stamford, where his next feat was as a punishment, to shut up a little girl in the oven, and was sent away in consequence. At a later day still, in another school, a pupil on his return from school was asked the question so frequent in those days, where you whipped to-day? "Yes, I was whipped, but Mary (his sister) was kissed." The teacher had left the room leaving a monitor to give the names of all who spoke, and the teacher coming to the little girl whose name had been given, instead of the dreaded tawse, stooped down and kissed the astonished child.

At this time it was customary to grant scholarships to the Grammar school, which were given for three years to the best pupils in the Common and Separate Schools, the latter having at this time a very able teacher; one of the cleverest pupils sent was the late Father John Kennedy who was drowned some years ago.

A circular issued seems to demand what we would now consider a work of supererogation, it is a system of Bible distribution by the teachers of the Niagara District, 1817, a circular of direction so paternal that it would be opposed now, signed by R. Clench, to inquire by going from house to house, if the settlers possess a Bible and in what condition, if not able to pay, name to be sent to Samuel Street, at the Falls Mills, Sec., of Niagara Bible Society. Also form of report of Trustees and Teacher's Certificate to receive salary, very different from that of to-day, merely that he has taught the school for six months, is a British subject, had not less than twenty scholars and has demeaned himself to our satisfaction. Signed by three Trustees and directed to the Treasurer of the District of Niagara. There are also rules for government of Common Schools in the District of Niagara, ten in number, as succinctly said by Dr. Hodgins, compared with the comprehensiveness and elaborateness of today those of eighty years ago make up for their lack in this respect, by their clearness and brevity.

No. 1. The master to commence the labours of the day by a short prayer.

No. 4. Corporal punishment, seldom necessary except for bad habits learned at home, lying, disobedience, obstinacy, these sometimes require

chastisement, but gentleness even in cases would do better with most children.

No. 5. All other offences arising chiefly from liveliness and inattention are better corrected by shame, such as gaudy caps, placing the culprits by themselves, not admitting any one to play with them for a day or days, detaining them after school hours or during a play afternoon and by ridicule.

No. 7. The forenoon of Wednesday and Saturday to be set apart for Religious Instruction, to render it agreeable, the school should be furnished with at least ten copies of Barron's Questions on the New Testament. The teacher to have one copy of the Key to these questions for his own use.

No. 8. The afternoon of Wednesday and Saturdays to be allowed for play.

No. 9. Every day to close with reading publicly a few verses of the New Testament, proceeding regularly through the gospels.

The propriety of Rule five would be called in question at our Training Schools to-day; certainly the framers of the rules do not seem to have had much faith in the scriptural knowledge of their teachers.

Unfortunately the Secretary's records of the Niagara Schools in early days cannot be found, but just lately in an old trunk was discovered a document containing interesting information relating to the District School in 1832-3. It appears from this that His Excellency, the Lieut.-Governor, then Lord Colborne, appointed the Trustees and advised them as to appointment of teachers. At a meeting of Trustees just appointed by him, viz.: Rev. Thomas Creen, Rev. R. McGill, Jas. Muirhead, Robt. Melville, G.M. McCormack, R. Dickson, Wm. Clarke, W.D. Miller, Geo. Ball, nineteen resolutions were passed with regard to building of the Seminary, large enough for apartments for masters and a large number of boarders, £500 had been granted by Trustees of Market Square and £250 additional obtained. The teacher was to be selected for literary and moral qualifications without regard to denomination. The Governor had granted five acres near Fort Mississauga, the school was then held near the Market Buildings. Permission was asked to appoint another teacher, and the Governor says it will not be necessary to go to the Mother Country as proposed, but that a competent teacher may be found in Canada. It is singular, that though different attempts were thus made from 1798 to secure a building, that no permanent building was obtained till 1859 for the Public School, and 1875 for the High School.

The oldest building now standing which served as a School House in Niagara is lately the property of Mr. Ibson. Here in 1827, and for many years, Miss Young taught a large Private School. The old fashioned fire-place with its crane may still be seen. The stone barracks, now the Masonic Hall, Rogers brick building, the brick building owned by the late Dr. Ker have all been used by the High or Public School in past years.

Among the teachers of Niagara, perhaps the most striking personality is Dr. John Whitlaw, who taught the Grammar School from 1830 to 1851. He was a good classical scholar and from the impression received from talking with some of his old pupils, must have been an able teacher and a christian gentleman. His son John was at one time his assistant, a young man of great promise, who died at an early age, the lectures he delivered on Chemistry, and the experiments in which he was assisted by his pupils are yet remembered. It is one of my early recollections, seeing nitrous oxide or laughing gas, administered by him in the lecture room, and the disastrous effects in one case. The love of science must have been shared by the father and son, for we find that Dr. Whitelaw taught in Kingston in 1814, and gave lectures in Chemistry, Mineralogy and Geology while master of the Kingston Grammar School. Junius, in Kingston Gazette, deplors the loss to Kingston boys, and mentions equations, geometry, trigonometry, Latin and Greek, a course of thirty-six lectures, three every week, admission three guineas for the course. In 1819, his successor is spoken of, and we know from, an address of Sir Oliver Mowat, that he practised medicine in Kingston, having been the medical adviser of his father's family. Here is a reminiscence from an old scholar: "When Brennan was hanged at Niagara jail, we boys did not know any better than to get up a petition for a holiday. One boy wrote it, from the dictation of another, while a third presented it. Such a lecture we received, I shall never forget, our conduct was a sure proof of total depravity and original sin. The next day we went to school, but the old doctor was ill. Whether he had taken our conduct so to heart, we did not know. We had the coveted holiday, but I question if any of us went to see the execution. He was very particular in, as he called it, giving us a "thorough grounding" in Latin and Greek, sometimes attained by painful methods.

The same old pupil describes the room as having a wooden partition one stove which very imperfectly heated the room being half in one room, and half in the other. There were about forty scholars, many of them from the regiment stationed here. There were morning and evening prayers. The Bible was read in both Common and Grammar schools by the pupils.

The Rev. T. Phillips taught the Grammar School from 1852 to 1861, and had a large boarding school forming quite a procession marching to St. Mark's on Sunday morning. Rev. T.D. Phillips of Chicago, his son the famous cricket player, was his assistant. The pupils were very successful in passing University Examinations. The buildings in which the school has been held have been as various as the teachers. In early days the block house, the stone barracks and many others before the present brick building was erected, not without a long struggle for the result of which the late Rev. Chas. Campbell of Toronto deserves much credit. Four of the teachers have had a long term of office, Rev. Jno. Burns, Dr. Whitelaw, Rev. T. Phillips and Mr. Andrews. Among the punishments was

one which may be considered questionable now, viz: to commit to memory a chapter of the Bible, another law was that when detained after school with work to be done, the teacher sometimes leaving the room, if one brave leader ran away, all the others might go, and the one who left first, alone was punished. It was considered a brave self-sacrificing thing to do, by subjecting oneself to severe punishment, thus procuring the freedom of the others, and he who did it was a sort of hero.

A reminiscence given by a colored woman of her school life in Niagara must not be forgotten. "The first school I went to was to a yellow man, called Herbert Holmes-Hubbard Holmes our people called him. Oh he was severe. They were then, you know, but he was a fine man, had been educated by a gentleman in Nova Scotia. He used to drill the boys and when holiday time came, he would march us all in twos to a grocery kept by a black woman and treat us all to bull's eyes and gingerbread. Holidays were not two months as they are now, but two weeks. I went to a black man upstairs in the school house of the Scotch Church. The room was full, full of children, the benches were slabs with the flat side up and the bark of the tree down, with round sticks put in slanting for legs. The children all studied aloud and the one that made the most noise was the best scholar in those days. Then I went to a Miss Brooks from Oberlin College in 1838-9. She was sickly and died of consumption, oh what hard times she had with some of the boys, bad, rough ones. But Herbert Holmes was a hero, he died in trying to save a black man from slavery."

The tragic and heroic death of this Niagara teacher I have told elsewhere, but some references must be made to it here. An escaped slave was to be returned to the United States authorities on the charge of stealing his master's horse in escaping, but the teacher and exhorter organized a party of seven hundred coloured people to surround the gaol and rescue him when taken out. For ten days or more the blockade was kept up and Herbert Holmes was shot dead while holding the horses' head to let the prisoner escape. This was in 1837, and his drilling the boys may have some result, as a company of black men from Niagara was formed and was on duty at the Falls during the Rebellion, aiding the government which had given them a refuge.

In the Niagara Chronicle, Jan. 1847, is told, "that the census just taken gives a population of 3058, there are 792 children between 5 and 15, of these 300 attend the five common schools, respectively conducted by Mr. Shaw, Mr. Thomson, Miss Eedson, Miss M.A. Eedson, and Mrs. Wilson. There is a dissenting common school established by our fellow townsmen of the Roman Catholic faith, the attendance of which must be large. In addition to these there are three institutions for a higher order of learning, viz., the District Grammar School, conducted by Dr. Whitelaw, assisted by Mr. Logan; the classical school of Rev. Dr. Lundy, and the Ladies' School of the Misses Burgess, also the flourishing private elementary school

of Miss Read. An assistant is now engaged for the junior branches in Mr. Shaw's school. This was Mr. Jas. Dunn, who afterwards became Principal, and also a highly successful High School Teacher in Elora, Welland, etc., and must not be forgotten.

Mr. Jno. Crooks who taught an early Sunday School, and as a Sunday School library had tracts carefully covered and distributed. This Sunday School was the first in Town and was between the years 1819 and his death in 1833. Another educator deserves honourable mention and I have the less hesitation in referring to him since Dr. Hodgins in his Documentary History of Education in Upper Canada does so. Although not a teacher in the ordinary sense of the term, it may be claimed for Andrew Heron, the originator of the Niagara Public Library, founded in 1800, that he was a teacher in the best sense of the term.

Another educative force may be mentioned, besides the libraries of Rev. Robert Addison, those of St. Andrew's Church and the Mechanics Institute. Many books were printed in Niagara, some of an educational character. Andrew Heron reprinted Mavor's spelling book in 1824, and in 1841 was issued Davidson's Spelling Book. From Dr. Hodgins' Documentary History of Education, we learn that Alexander Davidson was a teacher in Port Hope, and applied to Parliament in 1831 for authorization for his spelling book. From the advertisement it seems comprehensive, containing outlines of geography, grammar, religious lessons, morning and evening prayers and hymns, and a long recommendation of it appears in the Christian Guardian. In the Niagara Chronicle for 1842, are letters of recommendation from Rev. Robert McGill, Rev. T. Creen, Rev. A.N. Bethune.

John Simpson published the Canadian Forget-Me-Not, printed at the Reporter office, and from the Mail office the first long poem of Mr. Kirby, F.R.S.C. called the U.E., was issued containing descriptions of Canadian life and scenery, still unsurpassed in Canadian Poetry. In the advertisement of Andrew Heron, as bookseller, we see that the study of classics was not neglected, Eton grammars, Ainsworth's Dictionary, Caesar, Ovid, Sallust, Lampriere's Classical Dictionary, Valpy's Delectus, Homer's, Iliad and many others.

The ladies' School must not be forgotten. One narrator tells us of a Mrs. Radcliffe, in 1820, who taught the harp and piano; another mentions a young girl, Miss Birdsley, who was a good Latin scholar, having been taught by a Mr. McPherson. Some of the advertisements are amusing, with the rules and regulations, subjects taught, etc. In the Niagara Herald for 1830 is the advertisement of Niagara Seminary for young ladies, taught by Mrs. Fenwick and Mrs. Breakenridge, day scholars and boarders. The school of the Misses Crooks is often spoken of, also the large boarding school of the Misses Millard. Besides the name given before, as pupils taught in the early schools of Niagara, may be mentioned Judge Baxter,



Judge Miller, Hon. Arch. McKellar, Judge Campbell, Hon. J.G. Currie, Rev. F. Trew, Judge Kingsmill, Jas. M. Dunn, L.L.B., F. Harkness, A. Niven, P.L.S., Chas. Hunter. Dignity is given to the schools of Niagara by the many points of their history, which also touch the history of the country, and the important part played by many of the early teachers in the history of the place.

Many amusing stories could be told of the snowballing matches, between the Public and Separate Schools, not quite so exciting nor so bloody as that described so graphically by Sir Walter Scott in the streets of Edinburgh with Green Brecks. Other contests between the town boys and the dock boys were perhaps as exciting in their day as those in the English Universities between Form and Gown. It is recalled of one of the dock boys that when some town boys were sent out to bring him in to school as a truant, the report came back to the horrified pupils that he was standing in defiance of monitors and master with a pile of brickbats collected to do execution on any assailing force. It is not proposed to refer to the schools of a later day, or the change from the severe methods, corporal punishment, the dreaded public examinations, the prize books, to the changed curriculum, the presence of girls in the High Schools, the change from the excessive memorizing, etc. While we must naturally exalt the present and acknowledge the merits of our school system, and what we owe to Dr. Ryerson and Hon. Geo. Ross we need not depreciate the past, as some are so fond of doing. When hearing the boasting over some supposedly new idea, and the condemnation of any other system, we often wonder how the old system produced such grand men of such solid attainments, how the old system produced such grand men of such solid attainments, and we bow our heads in humility, and salute the pedagogues of the past, acknowledging that they often did conscientious, excellent work, and we humbly wish that our work of to-day may stand as well the test of the searchlight of the future, as we see that theirs has done; that our work may, as it is claimed is the true work of the teacher, enable the human souls under us to reach unto the divine.

In extending congratulations to the Historical Association it may be well to ask what would be lost to the world were all history blotted out? How much should we miss if from all literature were erased the record of brave deeds, of heroic struggles, of all the battles, whether with mailed warriors, or the giant selfishness under all its multiform shapes. Let all the history of these brave deeds be blotted out, still more, let all the literature inspired by them be destroyed. We shall have no Homer and no references to Homer, no poems formed on the great epic, no Arthurian legends, no exquisite amplification of these legends by Tennyson in the *Idylls of the King*, no historical plays of the myriad-minded Shakespeare, no *Evangeline*, no heroic story of William the Silent, as told by Motley, no story of Laura Secord by Mrs. Curzon, no heroic story of Joan of Arc, nor of Moses facing the mighty King of Egypt to free his people, nor of the little ruddy

David before the great Goliath. Fancy blotted out of existence the tales of the Great Magician of the North, and thus the exquisite pleasure derived from reading these tales. The story of Leonidas at Thermopylae resisting to death that immense host and the inscription, "Go tell our countrymen that we lie here in obedience to her laws," no tumult at Marathon to tell a few bravely fighting against such odds, no story of Grace Darling, nor Daulac and his sixteen brave companions devoting themselves to certain death to keep back the Indian foe, no story of the Maiden Martyr of Scotland's salt sea sands, chained to a stake while the tide came slowly rolling in, no story of the stern discipline of those brave soldiers on the Birkenhead, saving the women and children and going down to a watery grave with a ringing British cheer. And then the patriotic songs sometimes struck out on the anvil of a nation's agony, as "The Southern Flag," or "Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled," no ballads such as Horatius who kept the bridge in the brave days of old; no story of Abigail Becker, and her brave deed of "seven men to save," no column surmounted by the heroic figure pointing to the grand panoramic view from Queenston Heights. Still more let us suppose all the lessons taught by those heroic deeds unlearned, and unperformed all the brave deeds inspired by the reading of the past in emulation of heroes of other days. How bald, and poor, and tame, would be our literature, what gaps in the eloquent orations and appeals which have inspired men to greatness. What a blank should we find in verse and prose, where now there is such wealth of illustration and allusion. In discussing the prominence to be given to different subjects in the curriculum, let it always be remembered that history as an educator is an important factor, and it is earnestly hoped that this and other Historical Societies may do a great work in developing a spirit of patriotism, a love of Canadian literature and all that can ennoble our young country.

JANET CARNOCHAN