

# *East Elgin District Women's Institute*



## FOREWORD

This book was compiled by Miss Agnes Hepburn, Tweedsmuir History Curator for the Port Stanley Branch of the Women's Institute (1929-1957). Given to the Elgin East District Women's Institute by Miss Irene H. McBride, her niece, September 1972, restored by Mrs. Gordon Lemon and in 1977 voted by the District W. I. Board to be placed in Elgin County Library for safe keeping and perusal under supervision.



ILLUSTRATED

SKETCH

HISTORICAL



THE VILLAGE OF

PORT STANLEY  
ONT.

THE TWEEDSMUIR  
BOOK

compiled by  
Agnes M. Hepburn





## A HISTORY OF PORT STANLEY

Lake Erie has two hundred and fifty miles of shore-line, broken by clay cliffs. The city of Detroit stands at its western entrance and Buffalo at its eastern gates. Midway between these two cities, on the north shore, the cliff divides and a creek cuts its way to join its waters with those of Lake Erie. At the mouth of this creek, facing the Lake and sheltered on three sides by high hills, there has grown up a village. This village so beautifully situated is now known as Port Stanley and the creek as Kettle Creek.



It will not be hard to visualize this district in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Indian trails penetrated deep into the forest or followed along L. Erie and Kettle C. One of these trails led to the Thames R. in Southwold. The country for miles from where your dwellings now stands, was unbroken bush. In this virgin forest stood the deciduous trees such as maple, oak, ash, walnut, butternut, hickory and elm, together with spruce, pine, hemlock and tamarac, and cone-bearing evergreens. The tendrils of wild grapes clung to their trunks, bright-coloured berries hung on low bushes and sparkling springs of water could be seen bubbling among the grass and wild flowers. Wildcat, bear and wolves roamed about at pleasure, while beaver built dams and the owl joined his echoing hoot with the other weird calls of night-prowlers. There were plenty of wild turkeys and ducks living on our sandy beaches and in the reedy marches of our valley countless numbers of wild pigeon (which became such a plague to the pioneer farmer). Kettle creek teemed with fish.



BIRCH-BARK CANOE.

Learning the mode of Indian travel or using the natives as guides, French missionaries, fur-traders and explorers penetrated far and wide through the forests of Western Ontario. The French had forts at Niagara and Detroit and into this silent harbour, they came, by canoe, for shelter or rest along the journey and it is from records left by these men that we have learned of the Native Indians of this district. They were called Attiwandaroks or Neutrals designated as such because they carried on trade with the Hurons, who were friends of the English and the Iroquois who were friends of the French.

In 1616, Champlain refers to the Neutrals as a powerful nation of 4,000 warriors, who held a large extent of territory. Ten years later De La Roche, a Recollet father, was delighted with the beauty of their territory, but spoke of the warriors of this tribe as being very wild and fierce, fighting only with war-club and bow. In 1640-41, the Jesuit Missionaries Brébeuf and Charmonot traversed their country. These men became masters of the language, and Charmonot compiled a dictionary of the same as well as drawing a map of their territory. They record that there were forty villages, each fortified and protected from wild animals and enemy tribes, by earthen palisades. Alexis, supposed to be the Southwold earthworks was marked on this map. They grew potatoes, beans, and tobacco, in cleared spaces about their villages. Councils were called by their chief and could be held in a wigwam or in the open air, and the chief addressed them as they sat about in a circle on the ground.



CHAMPLAIN



# HANK

## AN HISTORIC GEM

Elgin County has one of the most historic places on the continent in the Southwold Earthworks, on the Townline from Burwell's Corners to Iona, and yet it has received so little attention in the tourist advertising.

The Southwold Earthworks is one of the few double-walled Indian forts discovered on the North American continent. It is believed to have been built by the Neutral Indians, centuries ago, as a protection against the attacks of hostile tribes.

This old fort has been marked with a cairn and entrance gates by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada and excavations have been carried out there for the National Museum at Ottawa; but to a visitor who is not a student of archaeology, the old fort is disappointing. There really isn't much to see, except the outlines of what must have been the raised earth for the palisade walls and what was probably a moat between the walls. Giant trees that were probably saplings when the fort was built grow up through those walls.



The Neutral Indians(continued)

and The Mission of the Angels.

It was during this visit to the Neutrals, that Brébeuf and Charmonot began, "The Mission of the Angels", and these lines of Longfellow, seem to describe well a scene of their labours.

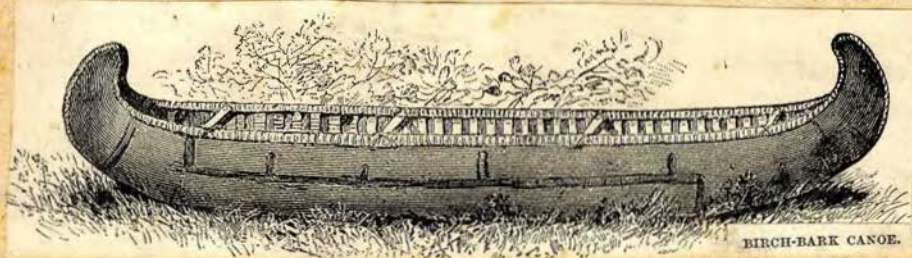
"Under a towering oak by the bank of a river,  
Kneelt the Black Robe Chief with his children. A crucifix fastened  
High on the trunk of a tree, and o'ershadowed by grapevines.  
This was their rural Chapel. Aloft through the intricate arches  
Of its ~~asael~~ roof, arose the chant of their vespers  
Minging its notes with the soft susurrus and sighs of the branches."

This Mission of the Anglès, among the Neutrals was abandoned, because of the hostility shown them, but in 1643, Christian Indians took up the Work and were well received.

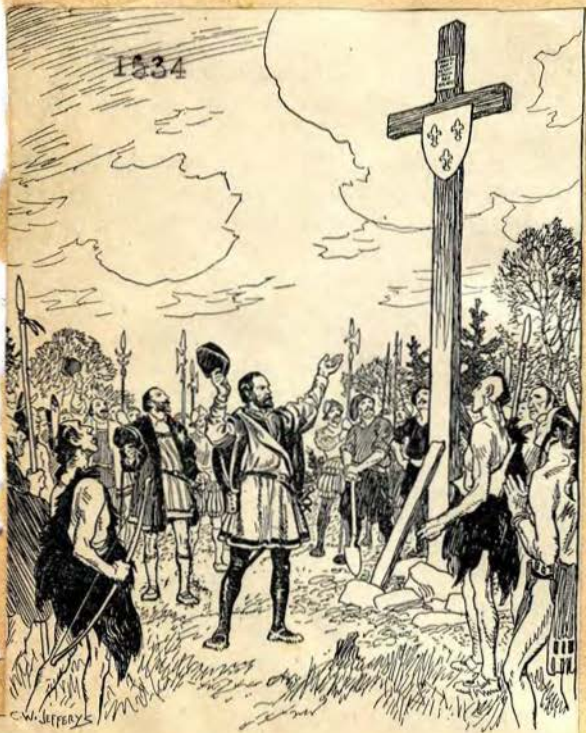


In 1650, these fierce and strong warriors, fell before the war-cry, tomahawk and arrow of the neighbouring Iroquois tribe. Those remaining from the massacre, abandoned their property and took refuge with other friendly tribes.



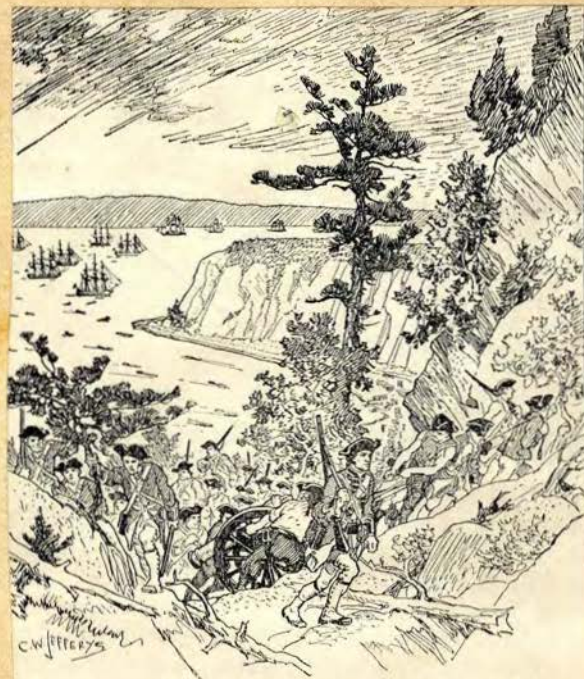


BIRCH-BARK CANOE.



C.W. JEFFREYS

CARTIER TAKES POSSESSION OF NEW FRANCE IN THE NAME OF THE FRENCH KING



THE BRITISH ASCENDING FROM WOLFE'S COVE AT DAWN



## KETTLE CREEK

An Important Stream.

The importance of this stream is shown by its having been marked on a number of French maps as early as 1650. It was for many years called Tonti, after the explorer but no name appeared on the maps until 1727 when the name Riviere a la Chaudiere was used. This simply means Kettle Creek. It is recorded that the Objibwas called the stream, the Akiksibi (sibi meaning river) and the Iroquois Indians used the name Kanagio.

In 1721, the distinguished traveller, Charlevoix passed up Lake Erie on his way to the Mississippi. He was enraptured by the beauty of the north shore, especially that portion now known as the County of Elgin. His description of this beauty fired the imagination of the young Thos. Talbot, as we shall find out at a later date.

### A GIANT IS SLEEPING.

For many years, this beautiful country along L. Erie seemed forgotten. Occasionally, a nomad band of Iroquois came along the trail for some of the abounding game, or fur-traders came to barter with the Indians for their furs, which was of course the chief source of wealth for the white man, in those early days. They spoke of travelling over the Iroquois Beaver-Grounds, because of the numerous beaver dams constructed by the industrious beaver colonies.



A BEAVER COLONY.

### THE CONQUEST OF CANADA

After the conquest of Canada by the English in 1759, the Mississaga Indians were the sole occupants of Western Ontario, and it was with them that the British negotiated in 1784 for the cession of this part of the country.

Canada passed from French to British rule by the Treaty of Paris, in 1763.



## FAMOUS EXPLORERS

Visit our Shore.

LaSalle, Tonti, Cadillac, DuL'Hut and Joliet were among the early explorers of the north shore of Lake Erie, travelling by canoe with their guides.

### DU L'HUT

des

----- was leader of the Couriers des Bois, who built a fort of palisades at Detroit before any permanent settlement began. These men returned each year to Montreal after their trading, selling their beaver-skins and telling their amazing tales of this and other regions through which they passed.

### LASALLE and TONTI

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LaSalle was also a leader of early explorers and Tonti was one of his devoted lieutenants. Tonti was Governor at Detroit.

### JOLIET

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The first recorded visit of an explorer to our harbour was that of Joliet. Joliet and his faithful Indian guide, (an Indian whose life he had previously saved from torture) arrived here in the Autumn of 1669. Joliet had been despatched by Talon to investigate the copper mines of Lake Superior and instead of taking the usual route by way of the French R. to Quebec, he came by way of Detroit and the Lower lakes, seeking out a new way to Quebec.

Villagers know the varying moods of Lake Erie, especially in the Autumn when one day brings storm and tempest while the next may bring one of great calm and brilliant sunshine. History does not leave the impression that rough weather greeted this early French explorer, so after two centuries, we will say that Nature put on a gala show, in honour of his arrival into this silent, natural harbour. Tall cliffs and marshy valley spread out before his vision.

The maple flamed among the evergreens, and the gold and crimson of the goldenrod and sumach showed brightly against the purple asters on the hillsides.

There was a swish of wings and a cry of waterfowl as the paddles dipped and swallows darted in and out of their homes on the cliffs, while the calm water of the lake was flecked with the autumn foliage and reflected the floating clouds above them.

Here, amidst this scene of natural beauty, explorer and guide add life and a picturesque charm, as they search out a suitable hiding place for their canoe, before they disappear through the forest on their way to Lake Ontario by way of the Thames and Grand Rivers.

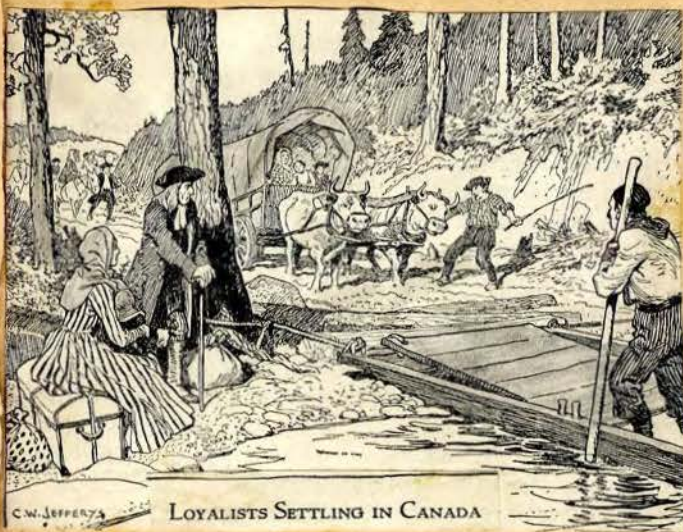
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On this journey Joliet met up with another group, LaSalle and two Sulpician priests, Dollier de Casson and Gallinee, who were going in the opposite direction. LaSalle left the company of the priests and joined Joliet on his journey. The priests continued on their way, descending the Grand River to Lake Erie and wintered at the forks of Patterson's Creek where Port Dover now stands.

In the Spring, following a route marked out for them by Joliet, the previous Autumn, they reached the mouth of Kettle C. where they found Joliet's canoe. They made good use of it as one of their own canoes had been lost in a bad storm after they left on their journey, which was to take them to the Sault. It was near this site where they established their missions.

note-It was in 1679, that LaSalle, as master of his own ship, "The Griffin", sailed from the eastern end of L. Erie (nearest to the Cayuga Creek) where the ship was built, to Detroit. The Griffin put into Detroit on the fourth day out.







C.W. Jefferys LOYALISTS SETTLING IN CANADA

(1784)



The Coming of the Loyalists.

Typical Scenes of the "U.E. Loyalists" who entered Canada at the close of the "American Revolutionary War." All descendants of these patriots are allowed the title, U.E.

CANADA UNDER BRITISH RULE.

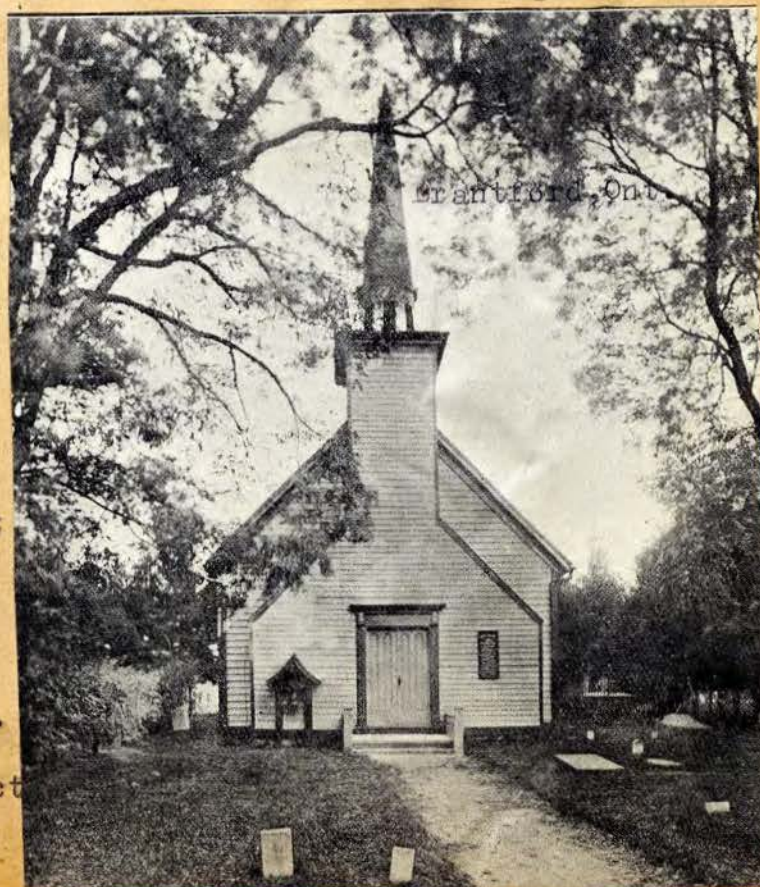
- The Quebec Act- (Upper and Lower Canada)

In 1791, the Quebec Act was passed and Jno. Graves Simcoe became the first Lieut. Governor of UPPER Canada. At that period of our history he was practically a dictator with far-reaching power. Although there was an elected Parliament, he was the Governor and the Government and the commander of the soldiery, as well. He wanted Canada modelled after the mother country both as to Church and State. In 1792, Gov. Simcoe divided this Province into nineteen counties of which Middlesex was one with L. Erie on its southern boundary, and the one holding and controlling this present village. The Goal and Court house was built at Vittoria, Norfolk Co.

On Feb. 4th. 1793, Gov. Simcoe with his party, set out from Toronto, on an official tour, through the southern counties to Detroit. He wished to find out by personal inspection, the resources of the land for the cultivation of hemp and for settlement. The party set out in sleighs but these were left at a Mowhawk village on the Grand River. They attended divine service in

"HIS MAJESTY'S CHAPEL  
of the  
MOWHAWKS"

on Sunday, Feb. 10th. they left the village after the service and proceeded along the trails on foot, accompanied by the Mowhawk chief Brant and twelve natives. They slept in wigwams constructed by the Indians and lived upon trapper's fare of hard bread and pork. They travelled on moccassined feet through that thick growth of forest, past Indian burial grounds and trees with Indian picture-writing. They hunted and trapped and saw a band of Chippewas making maple sugar. This trip became a very eventful one for this district as Thos. Talbot, secretary to



Brantford, Ont.



## THE TALBOT SETTLEMENT BEGINS.

the Governor was among the party and he, having read of Charlevoix' description of this region, had been greatly impressed by it. He was anxious to see the country for himself and when he did arrive, he was so delighted that he visioned the time when he should own this beautiful tract of land and have the pleasure of seeing it populated with worthy citizens.

Here is a translation of Charlevoix' actual comments and observations:

"The 23th of May, 1721, I went eighteen leagues and found myself over against the great river which comes from the East in 42 degrees, 15 minutes. Nevertheless the great trees were not yet green. This country appeared to me to be very fine. We made very little way the 29th and none at all on the 30th. We embarked the next day about sunrise and went forward apace. The first of June being Whitsunday, after going up a pretty river almost an hour, which comes a great way and runs between two fine meadows, we made a portage about 60 paces to escape going round a point which advances 15 leagues into the lake. They call it Long Point. It is very sandy and produces naturally many vines.

"The following day I saw nothing remarkable, but I coasted a charming country that was hid from time to time by by some disagreeable skreens, but of little depth. In every place where I landed I was enchanted with the beauty and variety of landscape bounded by the finest forest in the world; besides this water fowl swarmed everywhere. I cannot say there is such plenty of game in the woods; but I know that on the south side there are vast herds of wild cattle."

This country that charmed Charlevoix was undoubtedly Elgin, making his portage in the western part of what is now Norfolk County.

"If one always traveled as I did then, with a clear sky and charming climate on water as bright as the finest fountain, and were to meet everywhere with safe and pleasant encampings, where one might find all manner of game at little cost, breathing at one's ease a pure air, and enjoying the sight of the finest countries, one would be tempted to travel all one's life."

### COL. THOMAS TALBOT.

This young man Thomas Talbot was born at Ancient Baronial castle of Malahide, in the County of Dublin, Ireland in 1771. From 1786 to 1788, the Lord-Lieutenant, had two youthful aide-de camp, one being Arthur Wellesley, the hero of Waterloo and the other became the founder of a settlement along the north shore of Lake Erie.

Talbot was provided with a Colonel's commission at an early age and came to Canada with the 24th. regiment at Quebec, in 1790. In 1791, he became attached to the suite of Gen Jno. Graves Simcoe, the first Lieut-Gov. of Upper Canada.

In 1800, Col. Talbot retired from the army, sold his commission and came back to Canada after the Treaty of Amiens. He arrived at a site, which from its description, fits the present site of our own village. On May 16th, 1801, he wrote a letter to the Duke of Cumberland (the King's son) and this letter is headed, "Sittiewaaba, (Objibwah for fire-water). After spending more than a year at the site mentioned, he proceeded to England by way of New York, to negotiate for the land now comprising the Township of Yarmouth. (Talbot Papers)

He arrived back in Canada on the 21st. of May, 1803, with permission to begin his settlement. He was unable to secure the 5,000 acres in one block in the Township of Yarmouth, as grants had already been given to Col. Baby. His first allotment of land was in Dunwich and thence he made his way and began his clearing for "THE TALBOT SETTLEMENT". This site is known as Port Talbot.

"The conditions of which free grants were made to settlers were that the settler should clear and sow ten acres of land, build a house of prescribed dimensions and open one half of the road in front of his farm, all within three years. Failing this, he forfeited his claim. If he performed the conditions he obtained fifty acres free, and the other one hundred and fifty acres at three dollars per acre, and a right to a further one hundred acres on payment of certain fees was conceded also by the Provincial Government, as already stated." (Historical Sketches of the County of Elgin.)



COLONEL TALBOT.



# Early Days of Col. Talbot Who Landed at Pt. Talbot Just 133 Years Ago Today

MAY 21st-1946



JANUARY 14, 1948-

—Photos by Stollery.

**A LARGE OIL-BRUSH PAINTING** of Colonel Thomas Talbot, founder of the Talbot Settlement, adorned the Grand Central's new Colonel Talbot Room at the Chamber of Commerce dinner there Tuesday evening. The painting is the work of a local artist, Ray Eberts. It will have a permanent place in the new room.

It is rather fitting that this article, dealing as it does in part with Colonel Thomas Talbot and the Talbot Settlement, should appear today, because it was exactly 133 years ago today (May 21, 1803) that the Colonel landed at Port Talbot to begin his task of parcelling out the land granted him by the British Crown. The article, with an accompanying letter, came from Dr. C. M. Keillor, a native of the Wallacetown district and at present a member of the Canadian Pension Commission. The letter and article follow:

Editor, The Times-Journal: Sir,—It was recently my good fortune while in Regina, to have the privilege of browsing in the library of the late Lieutenant-Governor Miller of the Province of Saskatchewan, and I here subjoin an excerpt from "Picturesque Canada" which was edited by George Monro Grant, D.D., of Queen's University shortly after Confederation.

Born and reared in Dunwich township and having spent many happy hours as a youth at Port Talbot, this enclosure has a strong appeal and interest for me.

Perhaps many of your readers will derive not only the same sense of enjoyment in the delightful description of the Talbot country, but pride in having domiciled or even having lived at one time in the settlement where Colonel Talbot labored.

Sincerely,  
C. M. KEILLOR, M.D.,  
Commissioner.

293 MacLaren street, Ottawa,  
May 17, 1946.

Of the many railways which bring rich tribute to London, that arriving from the shore of Lake Erie by way of St. Thomas taps a district of much interest as well as resource. Leaving London, and holding our way along the gentle rise which forms the water-shed of the right townships of Westminster and Yarmouth, we find on reaching St. Thomas that we are looking down from an escarpment of considerable elevation. From the western edge the city commends a magnificent outlook.

As far as the eye can reach, country villas and trim farmsteads stand out in relief against graceful bits of wildwood or are only half concealed by plantations of deep green spruce and arbor vitae. Intervening are broad stretches of meadow, or long rolling billows of harvest land. Down in the deep ravine at our feet winds a beautiful stream, which has all the essentials of romance, except the name. When, half a century ago, Mrs. Jameson warmly remonstrated against "Kettle Creek," old Colonel Talbot pleaded that some of his first settlers had christened the stream from finding an Indian camp kettle on the bank, and that really he had not thought it worth while to change the name.

At St. Thomas we are in the heart of the "Talbot Country." The city's main artery is the same Talbot street which seventy miles eastward we found crossing the Grand River at Cayuga; and which, westward, we should find reversing the counties of Kent and Essex, finally running out on the Detroit River at Sandwich. Both the "street" and St. Thomas itself take their name from the young lieutenant whom we saw with Governor Simcoe exploring a site for London in the winter of 1793. As in St. Catharines and some other places locally canonized "The Saint" has been thrown in for euphony. Perhaps, too, the voluntary hardships to which Colonel Talbot devoted himself may have suggested a comparison with his famous namesake of Canterbury.

From the lookout at Port Stanley we can discern, seven or eight miles westward, Talbot Creek and the spot where this military hermit renounced the world of rank and fashion and entered the wilderness, there to abide with brief intermission for nearly fifty years; the spot also, where after a stormy life he now peacefully lies listening to the laughing of the lake waves upon the shore. Talbot was two years younger than Arthur Wellesley, the future Duke of Wellington, and, while still in their 'teens, the young officers were thrown much together as aides to the Talbot relatives, the Marquis of Buckingham, then Viceroy of Ireland. The warm friendship thus formed was kept up until the end of their lives by correspondence, and by Colonel Talbot's secular visits to Anslav House, where

he always found Wellington ready to back him against the intrigues of the Canadian executive. Through Simcoe's influence Talbot obtained in 1803 a township on the shore of Lake Erie. The original demesne grew in half a century to a principality of about 700,000 acres with a population of 75,000 souls. There was an arcadian simplicity about the life of these pioneers. The title

**Baron Talbot de Malahide**  
DUBLIN. — James Boswell Talbot, breeder of champion racing horses, who was sixth Baron Talbot de Malahide and held the hereditary title of Lord Admiral of Malahide and the Adjacent Seas, conferred by King Edward IV, died at Malahide Castle in County Dublin. He was 74. Lord Talbot was a great-grandson of James Boswell, Samuel Johnson's biographer. He leaves his widow, Lady de Malahide.

deeds of the farms were mere pencil entries by the Colonel in his township maps; transfers were accomplished by a piece of rubber and more pencil entries. His word of honor was sufficient; and their confidence was certainly never abused. The anniversary of his landing at Port Talbot, the 21st of May, was erected by Dr. Rolph into a great festival, which was long kept up in St. Thomas with all honor. Immediately after brief respite the hermit would return to his isolation, in which there was an odd mixture of aristocratic hauteur and salvaged wildness. The acquaintances of early life fell away one by one, and there were none others to fill the vacancies. While creating thousands of happy firesides around him, his own hearth remained desolate. Compassion was often felt for his loneliness; his nephews, one of them afterwards, General Lord Airey of Crimean fame, attempted to share his solitude; but in vain. Then his one faithful servant Jeffry, died. The recluse had succeeded in creating around him an absolute void; for we take no account of the birds of prey that hovered about. Wellington, his first companion and the last of his friends, was borne to his tomb in the crypt of St. Paul's amid all the magnificent woe of a state funeral, and with the profoundest respect of a great Empire. Three months later, Lord Talbot also died. It was the depth of winter and bitterly cold. In the progress of the remains from London, where he died, to the quiet nook by the lake shore, the deceased lay all night neglected and forsaken in the barn of a roadside inn. The only voice of mourning near his coffin was the wailing of the night wind. But, in that solemn darkness, the pealing organ of the forest played more touching cadences than may be found in a requiem of Mozart or Cherubini.



Jan<sup>24</sup> Colonel Talbot's Grave 1958

The Elgin Council at its session last week endorsed a proposal that the county give special consideration to making the repairing and maintenance of the grave of Colonel Thomas Talbot, founder of the Talbot settlement, a county responsibility. A committee was named for this purpose. Action followed a report that the Colonel's grave in St. Peter's cemetery on the shore of Lake Erie at Tyrconnel was in a state of disrepair.

Not too many years ago, a large number of cemeteries, notably the older ones where many of our pioneers are buried, were in a disgraceful state through neglect. Then a movement was started to improve them. With excellent results. Today most cemeteries, the old as well as the new, are well cared for.

St. Peter's was one of the first to receive attention, thanks to the personal and unflagging interest taken by the late Bam Sifton and others in St. Peter's Church. It was turned into a place of hallowed beauty, became a historic spot visited for years, and still is, by hundreds, with Colonel Talbot's grave and those of several other pioneers being of special interest. Excepting in cases where descendants of these pioneers attend to the matter, there is no one to help bear the cost of keeping the individual graves and the tombstones in repair, and the financial outlay needed to do so is more than the cemetery boards can or should be expected to bear. It is well therefore that the County Council intends to look into the situation to see what can be done about the Talbot grave.



## A Period of Reconstruction-

Now that the period of war and destruction was over, the settlers went to work in a co-operative way to restore the settlement. An annual event was that of June 4th, the King's Birthday, when the militia gathered by regiments for a training day, that they might be better able to protect themselves from any future enemy attacks.

Up to this time the settlers had much labour grinding flour for bread and corn for johnny-cakes. The following clipping tells the story.

A. E. Byerley, D.O., writes in the London Free Press that in 1817 Peter McKellar, father of Sheriff McKellar, and a few more Highland Scottish families settled in that part of the country now known as the Township of Aldborough, in the County of Elgin. It was then a dense wilderness and those daring people settled away in the very heart of the forest, through which it was impossible to drive a wagon without first cutting out a road.

Among the many privations which the settlers had to endure was the want of a mill for grinding grain, the nearest being about 50 miles away on Kettle Creek, east of St. Thomas. Owing to the total absence of roads it, of course, did not pay to take a grist all that distance, so Peter McKellar, with the assistance of Mr. Minzie, an old stone mason, set to work and constructed a hand mill.

They took two hard-heads (granite boulders) and with great difficulty, for they had but a few inefficient tools, managed to hew these stones into the desired shape.

Having accomplished this they took a section of a hollow tree and fastened the nether mill stone securely in it. Then the upper one was placed upon this and held in place by an iron axle running up

from below, and which had a cross piece to allow the upper stone being lifted. A beam was then made fast across the house walls, and into it a long piece of wood was fastened with a swivel joint. The bottom end of this stick fitted into a hole in the top of the stone near the side, and completed the primitive machine.

It was operated by two men who took hold of the bottom of the crank, or lever, and whirled the stone around, while a third person fed the grain.

The sheriff could just remember the men coming in, after an arduous day's logging or chopping and seeing them working away at the mill which stood about breast high on the floor of the log house, while the huge log fire blazed and crackled cheerily in the large square fire place. The settlers would come in night after night, and grind enough grain to last them a day or two.

But now in this period of reconstruction, water-mills were erected in the Talbot Settlement and we will find that the building of the "Talbot Mills" at the bank of Kettle Creek, which later became "Selborne", was the foundation of our own village.

In 1817, The United States and Canada came to a gentlemanly agreement between the two countries for mutual disarmament in the Great Lakes. It was signed for the U.S.A. by Richard Rush, acting Secretary of State for that country and by Chas. Bagot, the British minister in Washington on behalf of Britain.

There is no doubt this agreement between the two countries had some bearing on the settlement and progress of Ports along the north shore of Lake Erie of which Port Stanley was one and which began about this same year, 1817.

This year 1947, marks 130 years that this long frontier has been unfortified.

A cairn marking this event, stands in our picnic park, on Invererie Heights. High on this cliff, it looks over the wide expanse of Lake Erie. On this cairn is written,

on the face,-

"This unfortified boundary line between the Dominion of Canada and the United States of America should quicken the remembrance of the more than century-old friendship between these two countries, a lesson of peace to all nations."

on the reverse side,

"This block of Georgia granite was presented at the Cleveland convention of Kiwanis International, June 1942, by the Georgia district for erection on this site in celebration of the century and a quarter of peace along this frontier inaugurated by the signing of the Rush-Bagot Treaty, in Washington in April, 1817.

This tablet was the twenty-fourth in a series of peace tablets to be erected along the Canadian-United States Boundary, by Kiwanis International that Summer.

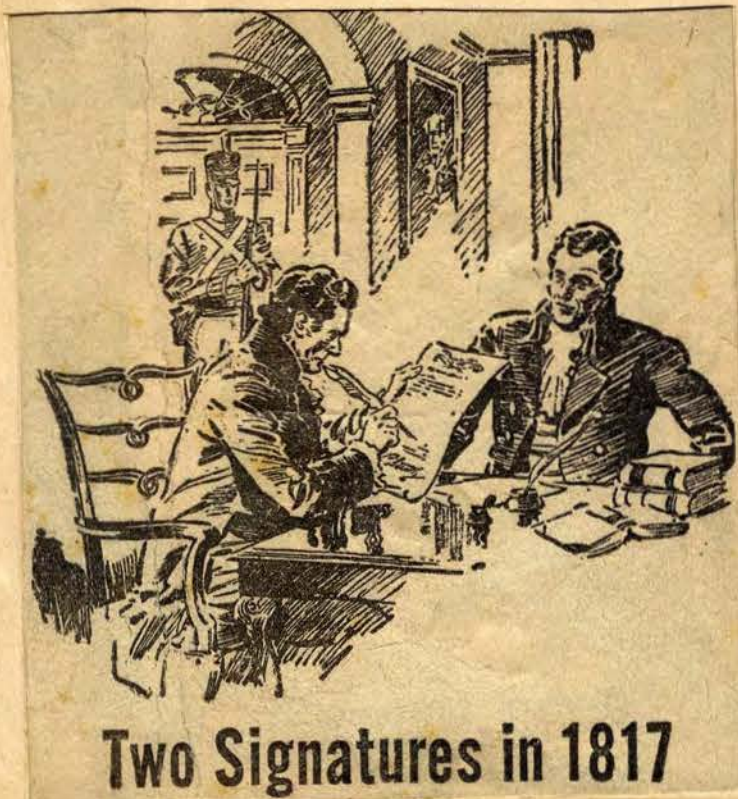
The past president, Jack Smith from Macon, Ga., had the honour of presenting the tablet, and all expense of manufacture and transportation was borne by the Georgia District.



## THE RUSSELL-BAGOT TREATY

In 1817, the United States and Canada came to a gentlemanly agreement between the two countries for mutual disarmament in the Great Lakes. It was signed for the U.S.A. by Richard Russ, acting Secretary of State for that country and by Chas. Bagot, the British minister in Washington on behalf of Britain.

There is no doubt that this agreement had a marked effect on settlement along the north shore of Lake Erie. Port Stanley is one of the ports that began a settlement, that year.



### Two Signatures in 1817

this cliff, it looks over the wide expanse of Lake Erie. ON the Cairn is written,-

This year, 1945, marks 130 years that this long frontier has been unfortified.

A CAIRN marking this historical event stands in our picnic park on Invererie Heights. High on



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JAMES H. COYNE  
Local Master of Titles  
FOR COUNTY OF ELGIN

St. Thomas, July 12, 1926

My Dear Miss Hepburn

On looking again at your card, I find I overlooked one of your questions. As to the spelling of Abik-oibi, I can only refer generally to any books containing the Ojibwa words for "Kettle" and "River" or "Creek". Baraga's dictionary is fairly well known. I have it some where, but can't get at it — it is probably buried under a heap of other books. Sir Wm. Johnson's Journal gives the Droquois name — "Kanagio", which means "Kettle in water". The Journal is included in Stone's Life of Sir Wm. Johnson. I have not seen the Ojibwa name on any map. The old