

Cadamile Moore was the first blacksmith within many miles of here. He built a small log shop on lot 48, west of the North street on what is known as the Webb farm, and here he repaired chains, etc. for the surrounding settlers. Among those who have been in the village might be mentioned Pomeroy, Brockway, Penwarden, Bowlby, and others. William Buckeridge conducted a wagon shop for some time. The first wagon in this section was built by John Boughner, who was then acknowledged to be the only carpenter in the vicinity, and Squire Millard.

The rebellion of 1837-38: In the spring of 1838, the 32nd regiment from London spent their first night in this village on their way to Detroit and other points. They numbered about six hundred and about seventy teams. As many as possible remained at Sam. Smith's hotel and the remainder were billeted out, thirteen going to each settler's place. There was a company formed here at the same time known as the Five Stakes Co., under Captain Shore, with about fifty men. They were once ordered up to Colonel Talbot's, but remained there but one night, being forced to sleep in a barn. The following night they were on duty at home and while Wm. Webb and Samuel Eccles were on patrol duty they shot at one man and he was afterwards caught and confined in London for some time but was finally released. For many years after the rebellion the Five Stake's Company trained at Fingal on the eagerly looked for day June 4.

During the Fenian Raid in 1866, several went to Sarnia and other points, among them being Messrs E. Barnes, D. Boughner, S. Smith and others.

#### Public Schools

The first school conducted in this section was in the little log house, about 1827, on lot 40, North Back street, owned by Mr. Jacob Lemons, by Solomon Savarine. This did not continue long, the settlers deciding to build a school house on the northeast corner now owned by Mrs. Isaac Smith. This was about 1829 or 1830 and at this time the section extended three or four miles west and to Kettle Creek on the south. The first teacher was one Mrs. Price and the subjects, spelling (Cobb's speller) arithmetic and reading, the latter being generally out of the old testament. The building had the fire place and the slab desk and seats, and it included the burch rod, as in these days the old theory "Spare the rod and spoil the child" was strictly adhered to. Among those who taught were Samuel M. Fassett, who also taught singing school here and at Oneida. Mr. Fassett playing the bass violin, Myron H. Rowley, now of St. Thomas, Mr. Leonard Busby, and Miss Spackman, Mrs. Joseph Orchard, Fingal. Mr. Rowley taught here two years, coming here in November 1831. An article of agreement was drawn between the settlers and the school master and two dollars per quarter was charged, and the teacher quite often boarded with the different settlers.

In 1844 a new frame building was built about a quarter of a mile north of the village, where the present one stands. The following were among the teachers, Wallace, Ralph, Campbell, Lindsay, Kennedy, Olmstead, Fraser, Munro, Miss Reilly, Greer, McTavish,



Kerns, Graham, Halls, Miss Burns, Walker, Greeard McIntyre, Swayze, Sinclair, McIntyre, McLean, McAlpine, Elliot. In 1874, a new brick structure was erected and is still standing. The following have been teachers, Decow, Young, Birks, B. Black, Miss McDermid, Marr Ferguson, Miss McIntyre, Jameson, Huges, McKenzie, Voaden, Tiller, Misses Fearnley and Law.

A private school was conducted on lot 48, west on the Webb farm, about 1828 by a Yankee, by the name of Clark, but only about three months a year.

The first trustees were said to have been Messrs. Patrick Burns, Henry Stinger and David Gilbert.

Among those who have gone forth from our schools to make their mark in the world might be mentioned: Rev. Thomas Voaden, B.A.; Arthur Voaden, St. Thomas Collegiate Institute; Fred Voaden, Prince Kingsville Public School; John Voaden, Vienna High School; Fergus Travers, Barrister, Toronto; Theodore Hunt, George Hicks, and others.

#### Churches

*Fred Hicks  
Dr. Edwin Afford*

As early as 1825, services were conducted in private houses but particularly at the home of Joseph Lyons on lot 48, east of the North street. A Yankee Baptist by the name of elder Sloubt conducting services here, he being previously acquainted with Mr. Lyons. In these early days the minister travelled on horseback as the road was almost impassable in some places, and quite often the preacher came Saturday night, and Sunday morning the minister and the settler walked and the settlers' wife rode the horse to the meeting house.

Service was conducted in the log school house and the following are among those who have preached there: Brinton B. Brown, James Jackson, Johnson Watson Caswell, these being nearly all Methodist.

Many of these also preached in the frame school house previous to 1856 when a large frame church was built on lot 41, east of of the North street, it being dedicated August 2nd, 1856. Revs. Rump and Rowland preaching the openingservices. Revs. Doel, Brown, Gundy, Kershaw, Hames, White, Henderson and Burke have been stationed here. In 1878, a fine large brick church was built by the Methodists in the village and is still in use. Revs. Jackson, Holmes, Thompson, Ward, Philips, Parsons, Kershaw, Kennedy, Yelland, and the present pastor, Rev. D. Rodgers, have been stationed here by the Methodist conference.

On account of the union between the New Connexion and the Wesleyan Methodist, a church was erected known as the Bible Christian on the Back street about a quarter of a mile west of the village in 1876 but was dispensed with in 1887.

The ministers were Davis, Whytlock, Williams, Mallott, Rice and Allen and at present there is only one church in our village.

#### Societies

At an early date a Loyal Orange Lodge was organized here but



but it became dormant and the charter was destroyed. Then in a few years afterwards another was granted, the meeting being held in hotels and the Son's hall. In 1883 the lodge became dormant and the charter was removed to St. Thomas where it still remains.

On April 14, 1874, a charter was granted the Sons of Temperance The Rev. Wm. Burke, Walter Roberts, and H. O. Ayrest being among its prominent members. They dedicated a new hall May 24, 1876 and flourished as a society until 1883 when it became dormant.

A charter was granted the Royal Templars March 27, 1891, but it only existed about three years. During the present year it had been reorganized.

### Cemetery

The Talbotville Cemetery, situated a quarter of a mile west of the village, on the Back street, is probably among the oldest burying grounds in Elgin.

In the early twenties a stranger giving his name as Jefferson squatted on Lot 40, south of the Back street, but was shortly afterwards taken sick and died at the home of Mr. Samuel Smith, who had taken up lot 39, west of him. Jefferson had made a will and requested that he be buried on the northwest corner of lot 40. and that it afterwards be used as a cemetery. He also requested in case his wife or family did not come that the crown patent go to Samuel Smith.

Some few years afterwards Mrs. Solomon Savarine, wife of the first school teacher was buried here and upon the weather worn wooden slab appeared the following epitaph:

Remember me as you pass by,  
As you are now so once was I,  
As I am now so you must be,  
Prepared yourselves to follow me.

Among those buried here are : James Bowlby, died Sept. 8, 1831, age 45; Jacob Bowlby, died March 9, 1828, aged 3; Mary Bowlby, died June 25, 1867, aged 76; Samuel M. Fassett, died Nov. 3, 1834, aged 49; Anthony Fick, died September 5th, 1851, aged 56; Julianna Fick, died Sept. 29th, 1857, aged 62; John Boughner, died March 17th, 1855, aged 75; Jacob Berdan, died Oct. 20th, 1879, aged 87; Rachel Berdan, died Feb. 4th, 1869, aged 68; Isaac Bowlby, died July 11th, 1866, aged 66; Rev. R. Andrews, died May 30th, 1849, aged 55; Charles Hannon, died January 26th, 1855, aged 45; Elizabeth Hannon, died April 25th, 1876, aged 79; Jane Hurdle, died March 21st, 1865, aged 76; John Hurdle, died August 26th, 1873, aged 84; Charles Knight, died May, 1875, aged 79; Hannah Knight, died Jan. 24th, 1889, aged 88; Henry Stringer, died Nov. 15th, 1883, aged 88. Probably the oldest person buried here was Mrs. Eunice Tallman, at 98 years of age.

Miss Louisa Boughner, in her 99th year, died in London, Feb 3rd, 1903.  
Biographical Sketches (Probably oldest person buried here)

Mrs. John N. Hunt, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Squire



*Sept 24/1896*

Millard, who came here March, 1818, is the only person living in this section who came with the first settlers. She was born at Long Point, May 15th, 1816, and when nearly two years of age moved here and has resided sixty-four years on lot 47, North street. She married John N. Hunt in 1837, and has lived to see the fourth generation.

No history of this section, or even of the county of Elgin, would be complete without the name of the late John C. Smith. Mr. Smith was born in 1816 in Yarmouth and was a son of Garrett Smith, who owned what is now known as Lynhurst, St. Thomas. He kept a hotel at St. Thomas and Union until about 1855, when he moved to Southwold, on the gore E, North street. He became one of the prominent men of the township being elected reeve, 1857, 61, 62, 63, 65, 66, 68, 69, and deputy reeve 1870 and 1872. He was a director of the Southern Counties fair for many years. He died very suddenly in 1889.

Although not one of the first settlers, Mr. Wm. Webb was for many years one of the prominent men of this district. He came out from England 1837 and purchased two hundred acres, lot 48, west North street. He took an active part in the rebellion of 1837 and 1838. He wrote many articles to the Hamilton Spectator, under the name of the "Middlesex Farmer" during the "free school" agitation led by Egerton Ryerson. Mr. Webb introduced dairying here, he being the first cheese maker. He now resides in London and is now in his ninety second year (lately died).

Samuel Eccles, who came here from England about 1830, purchased Lot 49, East North street. He imported the first sheep and thoroughbred cattle. He removed to London, and there became well to do, conducting what is now known as Labatts' Brewery. He died in St. Thomas a few years ago.

Mr. Frank Bennett, although still a young man, has become one of our most influential citizens. He was elected councillor in '89 and 1890, deputy reeve, 1892 and 1893, and reeve in 1894 and 1895, the latter year by acclamation. He is a prominent Odd Fellow.

Louis Lemons, son of Jacob Lemons, who settled on Lot 40, Back street, went through the American war. He lived in St. Thomas for many years afterwards.

Many from this section have gone forth to different parts of the globe in search of gold. Among them were David Henderson, Joseph Hetherington, Samuel Hunt and Nelson Hunt, the latter being last heard from in Cape Town, South Africa.

Our village presents quite a different appearance at present from that it did in 1820, when the first settlers arrived here. At that time many thought that the surrounding land was of little use, as considerable of it was covered with water during the greater part of the year. Instead of walking on logs, as was then necessary, the Main road is travelled by thousands of bicyclists every year.

At present the village contains probably one hundred and fifty inhabitants. William Calcott conducts a first class grocery and is also postmaster.



*About 1900?*

The following historical sketch of Talbotville, known as Five Stakes, was read by Mrs. St. Thomas Smith before the Women's Historical Society, and by special request given to the Times for publication. It is full of interesting matter which will without doubt, be appreciated by all classes of readers:

In writing the past history of Talbotville, I have only been able to secure information from one person that was born and lived in the village prior to 1830, which was about the time it was first settled and that is Mrs. D. Boughner, now in her 82nd year. There are a few others, but they are living now in distant places and I have not communicated with them; but what I submit to you is mostly the recollections of men and women who have lived in and about the village since 1830.

The village of Talbotville Royal is situated at the juncture of Back Street with the London and Port Stanley gravel road. It is commonly known as Five Stakes, on account of five corners caused by the meeting of three roads. Through the influence of Colonel Talbot a post office was established and named after him. The original owners of the land, which was afterwards sold for village lots, up to 1865 are as follows:

Lot 41 east side Talbot road, north branch, was granted to Charles Hannan 200 acres. One hundred of this was sold to Isace Bowlby, about 1820 to 1837. This land was divided up into small lots: John Alworth 3-4 acres; David Penwarden 1-4 acre; Lenord Risbee, 50 acres; John Daugherty 1-4 acre; Sam Knight, 1-4 acres; Dan Bowlby, 1-4 acre; Edward Bowlby, 1-2 acre; Francis Wade, 1-2 acre; David Penwarden, 95 acres; John Howcutt, 1 acre; Adam Knox, Robert Spackman, John Stacey, Thomas Perkins, Richard Milley, Esau Payne and Thomas Orchard all owned lots on the east side of Talbot road.

On the northwest side, lot 40, 200 acres, was granted to Jacob Lemon, who sold 62 acres to James Bailey. He resold to Charles Toyer and Toyer to Henry Branton.

On the southeast side, lot 40, was granted by the crown to Sam Smith, having been surrendered by Jefferson, one who died without heirs and was the first man buried in the cemetery which he had given to the village. This was in 1850 or 53. This land was afterward owned by David Sutton, F. Payne, Dorcas Fassett, W.C. Brockway, F.C. McKenny, W. Page, W. Drake, Elijah E. Duncombe, H. Payne, James Hamilton, James McQueen, Ben. Elliot, W. Robert, R. Hughes.

Lot No. A, east side Talbot, N. Branch, was granted by the crown to Alex. Matherson, 200 acres, then to Squire Ermatinger.



Lot No. B, to M. Murphy, to David Nickerson, to Joseph Barnes.

Lot E, west side Talbot road, North Branch, granted by the crown to Stringer, 200 acres, sold to W. Spackman.

Lot F, west side to Robert Johnson, 200 acres.

At this time the village proper consisted of three hotels, one blacksmith shop, one log school house, one shoe shop, one restaurant, one general store, also a wagon shop, which he sold to I. Tucker, a retired farmer, who was post master for about sixteen years. After him followed J. Calcott and at present Mr. ~~E.~~ Ackford.

*Wm* Carpenters were in much demand, as the log house was giving way to frame and among the first were W. Roberts, who with J. Boughner, and I. Hall, as plasterer and brick layer, built the majority of houses in this locality. J. Smith was the first cabinet maker, followed by Edward Godfrey. R. Mitley who opened a shop on the corner of lot 41, north east corner. A potash factory did a flourishing business under the management of Adam Knox, who sold out to Mr. J. Hicks. Ashes were collected from the farmers and paid for in laundry soap, a pound of soap for a bushel of ashes. Mr. Hicks has closed the factory and now ships the ashes to other places.

Solomon Souvereign was the first school teacher, followed by the late Alex. Fraser, St. Thomas.

John Allworth, father of the late Alfred Allworth, kept the first hotel, followed by W. Cuthbertson, and Samuel Smith.

Blacksmithing was in great demand at that time and one of the most important branches of industry. W.C. Brockway opened the first smithy, followed by Samuel Day, David Penwarden, Ben Knight, Peter Boughner, Charles Waite, and W. Smith. Shoe making was a lively business for many years at Talbotville, a man named Collins, an Englishman, was the first to open a shoe shop. After him came E. Payne. He also kept a restaurant. He was followed by his son-in-law, W. Arnold, who kept a small store. Mr. and Mrs. Arnold were killed by being struck by an express train on the Air Line, R.R. on Back street, while driving to see friends. A general store was kept by John Spackman, now of Exeter, afterward by McQueen and Drake, who were followed by Robert Branton, father of H. Branton, St. Thomas.

In 1858 J. Stacey opened a general store and post office. The plank road from Port Stanley to London having been laid, a great deal of teaming was done between the two places and as Five Stakes lay about half way between them, a stop over night was quite necessary, and, as may be imagined, it was the scene