

CHAPTER II.

In the Days of Muddy York

The almost unbroken series of account books in the vaults of Messrs. Gooderham & Worts previously referred to afford an opportunity for tracing out the progress of business, the various steps by which it was accomplished, the parties involved in transactions, the prices of various commodities, and, incidentally, much connected with the history of the **firm** and the times in which they lived. Regret has been already expressed as to the loss of the first volume, afterwards referred to as a "Waste Book," but which would doubtless have proved the source of many interesting particulars.

The initial entry of the next surviving volume is November **7th**, 1831, when Mr. James Worts, Senior, who made the entries, must have been already several months in this country, to which he came, as a sort of Joshua, to view the land, on behalf of his brother-in-law, Mr. William **Gooderham**, who apparently actuated the undertaking and supplied all or the greater part of the necessary funds. Mr. Worts had previously been engaged for many years in milling in England. In 1813, **when** he attained his majority he was proprietor of the **Kirtley Mill**, in **Bungay, Suffolk**, where a loop of the river **Waveney makes** an incursion into Norfolk,

only about fourteen miles from **Scole**, or **Osmondston**, as it was formerly called, the parish and village in which this branch of the Gooderham family resided.

The last entry in the **Kirtley Mill** book is April **25th**, 1831, and the first entry in the same old book, in York, Upper Canada, is, as above stated, November **7th**, of the same year. Mr. Worts must have arrived here between those dates; and, of course, on a sailing vessel. This was **just** about a year before the time and season when Mr. **J. A. G.** Howard, the future donor of our Western Park, took his departure from the mother land, and who was two months reaching Quebec, and nineteen days in getting to York. Applying this time for estimating the duration of Mr. Worts' voyage, and assuming a start on May **10th**, the arrival of that gentleman may be taken at about August 1st. He was accompanied, or, according to another account, immediately followed hither by his son, James Gooderham Worts, then a boy of fourteen.

As has been already said a careful search among old records fails to disclose any authentic evidence of the existence of a windmill, in York, up to this date. There were, however, several water-power **mills**, all necessarily some miles distant from the town, as neither the Don nor the Humber provide **sufficient** fall near their outlets. The first attempt at the establishment of an enterprise of this kind was made in 1798 by Captain William Skinner and

Mr. **Parshall** Terry, who subsequently built a grist mill up the Don. This was in operation in 1831, under the ownership of Mr. John Eastwood, or his brothers-in-law, the **Helliwells**. The assessment rolls of the township, which had a special column for grist mills, are blank from 1820 to 1825, but record four in 1833, one of which would be the new windmill. The Humber Mill was not built by William **Gable** until several years later.

Mr. Worts certainly lost no time in making up his mind about the erection of a windmill. He came from a part of England in which the wind was the main source of energy. Sir William Fairbairn—an authority on such matters—says that in the early part of the last century nearly all the **grinding**, stamping, sawing and pumping for drainage, on the east coast, was done by windmills. At **Yarmouth**, partly in **Suffolk** but **mostly** in Norfolk, not far from the district in which Mr. Worts did business, were the largest windmills in Britain, with sweeps which described a circuit of one hundred feet, and developed a power sufficient to drive six run of stones. No wonder that Mr. Worts **determined** on a **mill** of this kind, and at once sought a suitable site as previously related in regard to his meeting with Mr. Beatty "in the bush" near the mouth of the Don.

The location selected was literally as stated. Trinity Street did not then exist, except as a pathway from what was then the Kingston Road to

the Forks of the Don, and **thus** to the Peninsula, as the Island was then roughly called. There were not any houses south of Palace Street, from Parliament Street to the Bridge (Queen Street east) at Lot Street, except that of Mr. Warren, a music teacher and organist, and the modest cottage of Isaac Pilkington, messenger of the Legislative Assembly. A short distance east of the windmill site was the second block house, erected after the destruction of its predecessor by the Americans.

The exact location of the centre of the windmill tower is now marked by the angle formed by the back porch of the western wall of the present **offices**, but, at the time referred to, the south wall of the tower was on the edge of the water.

The water front can be best described by an **extract** from the *U. C. York Commercial Directory*, issued in October, 1833, probably the second printed work of the kind, and a most painstaking and conscientious production. "The Don River, a short distance before it flows into the Bay, forms two streams called the Forks of the Don, and the streams are designated the Great and Little Don. Close by is a bridge across the Don, called **Angell's** Bridge, being the name of the engineer. Built for the convenience of those going inland, now useless (1833) by the bridge across the small Don being destroyed and which it was necessary to pass to get to the first mentioned Bridge." At the intersection of Parliament Street with the Bay there entered

Goodwin's Creek, as it is called by Dr. Scadding. At first sight the name looks like a corruption or contraction of Gooderham but such liberty would not have been taken by so careful an authority, who, before the advent of the **latter** family, was familiar with every foot of the ground, and, as a boy, doubtless knew the creek almost as well as the Don.

The immediate neighborhood may be described as **being** the south part of Township lot No. 16, as laid out on a plan drawn in 1796, three years after the founding of York, and stated to be that of the "Township of Dublin now York Home District." No one has been able to find out when and how this Hibernian designation originated, but, in any case, it would have proved unsuitable for a town bounded by two streams named after Yorkshire rivers and in all respects so essentially English. This plan shows the water front, south of Queen Street, from a point three and three-quarters of a mile east of the Don, at the Scarboro town line, to a mile east of the Humber, which would strike about three or four hundred feet inside the east limit of Howard Park. The lots are numbered from the east, and No. 17 extends 1,320 feet, or a quarter of a mile, from the west limit of Bright Street to the west limit of Parliament Street. This township lot is equally divided, north and south, into two Park lots, Nos. 1 and 2, and the windmill was consequently on the latter.

The block between Parliament and Berkeley Streets and south of the Kingston Road, which then

started at Mr. Small's house, was doubtless a pretty spot, well entitled to the name "Vale Pleasant," by which it was known at that time. The vale was formed by Goodwin's creek, which crossed in a southerly direction from about the corner of the Kingston Road and Parliament Street. The rising land on the south bank is well shown since the demolition of the Hamilton foundry by which it was disfigured until last year (1914). To the south of this block was the site of the Parliament Buildings, destroyed by fire, in 1824, 'but still exhibiting the ruins of the brick structure.

Such was the neighborhood of the location chosen for the Windmill. Beyond it, to the west, stretched the little town, for Berkeley Street was then considered the eastern limit, while the "liberties" extended as far as the Don. The population in 1831 is set down in the assessment rolls in the following curious way, which shows a practical appreciation of kinetic and potential possibilities in regard to labor and matrimony.

Heads of families and males over 16	1,257
Females over 16	807
Males under 16	1,105
Females under 16	800
Total	<u>3,969</u>

The missing "Waste Book," previously alluded to, is indeed a sore loss and it leaves an absolute blank from the arrival in York until November 7th,

1831, the date at which the second book commences. Though ostensibly a rough statement of daily transactions relating to business it is sometimes enriched by incidental notes such as a lonely man might make, informally, at the opening or close of the day, and thus becomes a sort of occasional diary. A copy of the first page very well illustrates the general style and also affords data from which the progress of the work may be estimated:

"York, U. Canada, Monday, Nov. 7th, 1831.
Fine frosty morning. Bricklayers at work by eight o'clock.

John Scott	}	8/ 1/2 day
Boy		
George Monro	5/	Making window frames
George Calvert	6/3	Making moveable curb.
Sampson	1/3	} Barrowing bricks
Irish	2/3 1/2	
Robert, William, Jarvis, Harry, Sam,	6	laborers 1/
Ed. Copping, carting	1,000	feet board
Ed Copping, carting	20	loads sand
Prentice,	32	stave ladder, 1.0.0
Prentice,	1,000	feet board, 2.3.9
34 lbs. of rope for hoisting brick,	1.8.4."	

This will serve to show the staff of men employed—usually about twelve, the wages paid, and the prices of some materials, to which may be added "52 bbls. of lime at 3/11 1/2: Silverthorn for 1,290 feet Fir at 12/6, 14 lbs. nails 5/10 and letter

to England 2/-" It must be borne in mind that these figures relate to currency, by which one pound equalled four dollars; one shilling 20 cents; and one penny one and one sixteenth cents. Nearly all entries are so priced, but occasionally the decimal system is employed, as in the case of lump sums, as "bought horse harness, cart and sleigh of E. Copping for \$1 00."

On November 26th an announcement is made which definitely fixes the stage to which the work had progressed "Finished the Tower and laid on under curb and covered it over with boards" doubtless as a protection from a threatened snow storm, which, by the way, duly arrived. "It took 105,000 brick to build the mill, 216 ^{184 1/2} bbls. lime and 100 ^{40 1/2} bags sand." By a subsequent entry it was found that those bricks were bought from Messrs. Snider & Ward and composed an entire kiln with the exception of 12,800 which were retained by the brick-makers. The price is not stated, but a later lot cost \$4.50 per thousand. Paint, putty and such like articles, bought throughout December, indicated the finishing of the outside of the tower, but the moveable roof, and particularly the vanes, took up much time. Many logs of pine, oak and maple were brought to the ground, and there sawn up for interior work, and also for the construction of out-buildings. Lighter lumber, as scantling and boards, was procured in such form. Some bricklayers were retained, probably for the construction of a tall chimney, which was placed to the west of the tower.

This was for furnishing draught for a large stove for heating the mill and doubtless also for a kiln for oats.

The troubles incident to builders were, of course, encountered. One of the mechanics was undoubtedly a good workman and on this account much esteemed, but, like many others, had a not uncommon failing. The degrees of intoxication are amusingly put down by his employer who probably noted them from the standpoint of wages. Thus the man might be "partly drunk," "drunk half a day," "sleepy drunk," "dead drunk," or "drunk as David's sow." It is difficult to say which of the last two degrees should have the preference, but it may be assumed that, in either, the subconscious mind was entirely freed from its fleshly fetters and roamed at large in fields of unbounded bliss—a condition which would likely be afterwards counterbalanced by a commensurate stoppage of pay.

During the balance of the winter a **small** staff of inside workmen was maintained; and some of the wooden outbuildings completed. The purchase of "bent logs for cap" showed the form that the windmill roof was to assume and "a **baulk** for stock," 71 feet in length, roughly indicated the height of the tower. As all machinery and mill requisites had to be brought from distant eastern points to the ice bound port of **York** the want of much progress can be accounted for.

Some entries are noted which indicate incidents which will bear telling. One of these was a trip fourteen miles out of Toronto (township) to the farm of Mr. T. Silverthorn, who had become acquainted with Mr. Worts and had supplied him with considerable timber in the form of logs. This property is described as containing "200 acres, between 50 and 60 of it cleared from trees, 10 acres of which is nearly free from stumps. A good substantial weather-boarded barn and log dwelling house. Asks 550 currency for it" (\$2,200). This gives an idea of the price of improved land at this time.

"Dec. 9th, W. L. Mackenzie completed his defence this evening." This recalls a very lively time in York as the disturbance then culminating led ultimately to the more serious trouble of 1837. The supporters of Mackenzie used to meet at **McIntosh's** Sun Tavern, on the north west corner of Yonge & Queen Streets, and there devise and discuss their plans in language far from respectful to the Government or its head. Mackenzie, who was then a member of Parliament, carried this fiery style of oratory into the House and as a result was charged with a breach of privilege and also accused of libel upon the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John **Colborne**. Hence Mackenzie's defence on the 9th, and his consequent expulsion from the House by a vote of twenty-four to fifteen, three days afterwards. His triumphant re-installment and subsequent downfall need not be further alluded to here.

On the last day of January, 1832, "at two o'clock in the morning, the tolling of the bell at the church" announced a fire in the recently **erected** brewery of Enoch Turner on Palace Street, near Parliament. Mr. Worts and other friends arranged a temporary loan of £300, which tided over the difficulty and enabled the brewer to successfully establish the enterprise. The words "Built by Enoch Turner 1848" on the brick school house still at the rear of Trinity Church, show his regard for the neighborhood in which he once resided and carried on a successful business.

The Mechanics' Institute had only been organized for about a year. Meetings were held in the Masonic Hall on Market, now Colborne Street, not far from Church Street. Mr. Worts used to spend some of his evenings there, and was elected one of the Committee; where he was associated with **Drs. Rolph** and **Mr. Baldwin**, Ex-Sheriff Jarvis, Messrs. James **Lesslie**, Jessie Ketchum, and others interested in technical and scientific subjects.

Mr. Worts, with his son, had been lodging at the house of Mr. Addy, on Ontario Street, but later on commenced housekeeping on the north side of the **Kingston** Road, just opposite to what is now Trinity Street, which was then being graded and named **Windmill** Street as the road to the new structure.

In view of the expected arrival of relatives from

England it became necessary to provide for their accommodation and negotiations were entered into with the Rev. Dr. **O'Grady**, who had been the incumbent of St. Paul's Chapel since 1829, for the purchase of his house and property on the north side of the Kingston Road, near the Don Bridge. This was probably about the time that the holy father had a disagreement with the first Roman Catholic bishop of Upper Canada, Macdonnel, who objected to **O'Grady's** introduction of politics into the instruction given from the pulpit and confessional. Both parties were violent partizans; the Bishop, of the Family Compact, and the priest, of Mackenzie. In fairness it must be said that the charge of perversion of ethics did not seem to be confined to the father, who was, however, ejected from the church and summoned to appear before the Pope to answer for his indiscretion. Whether this was the cause of the sale of the property cannot be positively stated, but is quite likely. The purchase was made on March **29th**, 1832, the amount to be paid being \$987.1 1.0, currency, for the block of three and a quarter acres, with residence thereon.

A very interesting item was copied into the Waste Book about this time. It gives an insight into the prices and conditions which prevailed in Upper Canada as early as 1822, when, as later, barter was the most frequent way by which commercial transactions were carried on. It is in the form of an advertisement which appeared in the "Western Mercury."

far from their price in 1915, and cauliflower and **early** York cabbage **plants** were **also** obtained, despite the fact that English seeds of these vegetables were already in the hot bed, and, by the end of the month, were showing their seed leaves. During May there was little doing at the windmill, probably on account of the non-arrival of parts of machinery, or perhaps of expected funds, but spare energy was assiduously applied to gardening.

On May **30th**, Mr. Worts writes that "Emigrants from **Suffolk** called on me informing me that Mr. **E. Cooderham** was on his way up to York." From this it may be inferred that these men learned the news since their arrival in Canada, which would be at least about the middle of May.

This was a very busy time at Quebec, as emigration was unprecedented. During the year 1832, and for the most part in the spring, over 30,000 persons arrived in the country and the difficulty of transportation westward was much intensified. This was brought to a climax on June **3rd**, when the brig **Carricks** arrived at Grosse Isle, from Dublin, with **103** passengers out of 145, the rest having perished from cholera. This was the first recorded appearance on the American continent of this dread scourge which was moving its course westward. Originating, as usual, in India, it commenced its march in 1826, devastated Russia in 1829, and arrived at the port of Sunderland, in England, in 1831, from which it spread over that country, and,

in 1832, over Great Britain, taking its heaviest toll in the sister isle.

Some of the passengers on the **Carricks** put up at a lodging house kept by a man named Roache, from which 56 victims were carried to their last resting place, and, in a fortnight, over 1,000 persons in Quebec **suffered** the same fate. Cholera usually follows the lines of travel and thus was it carried up the St. Lawrence, reaching Kingston on June **20th**, and York four days later. The transmission to the latter was through an eastern tailor, named Filgiano, who thought to escape by flight westward, but the destroyer already had him in his clutches and the victim fell in the little town of York, over which the infection spread with lightning-like and fatal rapidity. The progress of the epidemic westward was such that Chicago was reached by July **10th** and Arkansas by September, but its violence diminished and about this time and place ceased altogether. The second visit, which occurred in 1834, originated independently and was not, as sometimes thought, a continuation of the first.

This choleraic digression may be in part excused because it perhaps accounts for the length of time which appears to have elapsed between the arrival of Mr. **E. Gooderham** at Quebec, probably about the middle of May, and in **York** on July 5th. It moreover explains a recipe for cholera which Mr. Worts thought valuable enough to be handily transcribed **under date** of June 30th—six **days** after the

"Ancaster Flour Mills and Distillery."

„The proprietors will give in exchange two gallons of whiskey for 60 lbs. of Rye or Indian Corn. They will also give for five bushels and twenty pounds of good merchantable wheat, one barrel of Superfine flour, fifty pounds bran, and ten pounds of shorts; or, for five bushels of good wheat, one barrel of fine flour, fifty pounds of bran and ten pounds of shorts. The owner of the wheat to find casks and nails."

"Ancaster, Feb'y 17, 1822"

The same issue of the "Mercury" gives the price of wheat as seven York shillings, or 4s. 4½d. currency, per bushel of 60 pounds. The prices of rye and maize are not stated.

The spring of 1832 opened fairly early and was heralded on April 2nd by the arrival of the steamboat Canada from Niagara. This well-known pioneer was under the command of Capt. Hugh Richardson, afterwards Harbour Master of Toronto. She was of 250 tons burden, was built in 1826, at the mouth of the Rouge, and usually traded between York, Niagara, and the head of the Lake, a route she took up this season, regularly, on April 10th.

Good Friday, April 20th, was a lucky day, for about 5 a.m. there came in, from Prescott, the *Great Britain*, a 700 ton steamboat, running between Kingston, Niagara, and the head of the lake, with

the **much-looked** for main shaft for the windmill, and the Schooner *Kingston* and *MacGill* brought the millstones and castings. These were landed at Fehan's wharf, which was just west of what was afterwards known as Ewart's wharf, now Conger's, at the foot of Church Street. The millwrights, who appear to have been named Hill and **Sedgworth**, were ready for work, and Husra, senior and junior, receiving 7s. per day, were employed with them. The bibulous mechanic, who had been several times discharged and restored, had apparently reformed, as his wages were advanced from 6s. 3d. to 7s. per day, but working hours for that period and season commenced at 6 a.m., with half an hour for breakfast, and ended at 6 p.m. since the daylight admitted of working through this time.

Gardening at the "new house" had been carried on very energetically since the opening of spring. Whether the locality stated applied to the **O'Grady** property or to the house over which Mrs. Robinson presided is hard to determine. In any case an astonishingly large quantity of seed was sown, and as part of this had been brought from England it is evident that Mr. **Worts** had made thorough preparation for settlement in Canada. George Leslie, the new nurseryman, who had previously lived at the Smith house, on the north east corner of King and **Carlaw** Streets, was now on his own property, east of the Don, and supplied any plants which were required. Thus on April 25th, one hundred and **fifty** asparagus roots were bought for 7s. 6d.—not

disease had appeared in York. The medicine consisted of a mixture of charcoal, lard and maple sugar which was to be followed,—if the patient survived—by spruce beer. The external application of the lye of wood ashes was recommended for spasms, but this alkaline embrocation might happily be substituted by hot brandy. After recovery, bean soup, with, very fat pork, might be indulged in while water in which live maple coals had been quenched was mentioned as a proper drink. This prescription has quite a national flavour, and is not without a redeeming **feature**—the hot brandy, for instance—but, prevention is better than cure, and the good people of Montreal, acting on this, tried to scare away the disease fiend by burning tar barrels and firing cannon on one of the corners of **Notre Dame Street**. This did not however drive away the demons of disease until over 2,000 cases had occurred.

To resume the story. The **arival** of Mr. Ezekiel Gooderham, at York, on July 5th by steamer *Great Britain* from Prescott, was doubtless most welcome to Mr. Worts, not only that he received some funds, but **more** particularly, news, anxiously awaited, of the families and relations who were soon expected to arrive from England. It is commonly believed that these relations accompanied Mr. E. Gooderham, but this is clearly disproved by the fact that this gentleman would surely have announced it, and Mr. Worts, writing on July 21st, would not **have made the** entry: "**No** account of

the Anne, **Capt. Potts**" (presumably the ocean ship on which the Gooderham & Worts families sailed) nor two **days** later would he have written "Received the **joyful** news of our families' arrival at Quebec." This **single** statement is quite **suffi-**cient to establish the position.

On July 25th, 1832, the anxiously awaited party, under the direction of Mr. William Gooderham, arrived at York and was the occasion of a happy reunion.

Two days **sufficed** for mutual **congratulations** and a survey of the position, when business was definitely commenced by the formation of the partnership between Messrs. Worts & Gooderham and the opening of an account, under such style, in the Bank of Upper Canada, with an initial deposit of £1,823.06. From an entry in the account book it appears that up to April there had been about one thousand pounds expended on the mill. As remarked in Robertson's Landmarks of Toronto the total **amount** represented in those days a very considerable sum. The Bank which was then at the south-east corner of King and Frederick Streets, had been established for ten years, and had fully entered upon a period of prosperity which continued until the depression of the fifties, and terminated in the disastrous failure of 1866.

The accession of additional energy and capital proved a stimulus to progress at the mill, though this was necessarily curbed **by** the **difficulty** of ob-

taining the machinery. The new harvest was, however, at hand, and a little wheat, possibly old stock, was already making its appearance on the streets of York. The first purchase was made on July 30th from a Mr. **Fenton** and some weeks later other small lots, at **5s.**, from William Smith, of the Don, and Caleb Groat, with oats from John Scarboro at **1s. 10½d.** The names of many of the pioneers of York and Scarboro are embraced in the entries of September 1832. Quantities varied from a few bushels to a wagon load, and prices ranged between 3s. 9d. to 5s.—mostly over 4s. The entire purchases, up to Oct. 1st, were 887 bushels of wheat and 154 bushels of oats, the latter costing from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d.

The end of the summer brought **the** windmill to fair completion, and it may be well to describe what the structure was like, as far as ascertainable from the old records.

The so-called German windmill was of the earlier kind though it was antedated by a stationary structure with vanes facing the prevailing wind. It was not until the twelfth century that this primitive idea was carried out, to be in time succeeded by a design in which the entire wooden mill, or its upper half, was made to revolve on a central post. This led to a further improvement in which a stone or brick tower was erected and surmounted by a moveable cap or roof, mounted on a suitable curb, furnished with runners, and carrying the horizontal

axle and vanes, so that the latter would face the wind. This was the Dutch, or smock mill, very common in Suffolk and Norfolk, and other countries on the east coast.

The builder of the windmill at York was born and brought up among these Dutch models and had himself been a mill owner, which sufficiently accounts for his building such a structure here. The circular tower was consequently made of brick and the number used—1 05,000—was sufficient to raise it to a height of six stories, the upper three and the second being lighted with four windows each, and the first and third by two, with doors. All such towers are tapered so that the diameter of the base is greater than that of the top, and the difference may have been about eight feet. The mill stock, when purchased, measured 71 feet, which probably gives an exaggerated idea of the height, which was likely about 10 feet less. A revolving cap is indicated by the purchase of bent logs for a framework, so as to produce a sort of hipped effect. The main axle passed in the direction of the gables of this structure, and the vanes were **automatically** worked up to the wind by a revolving fan. Around the tower, above the second tier of windows, was a railed platform, which afforded an entrance to a door at this elevation. All this is delineated in detail in Timperlake's lithograph of Toronto in 1834, which, must have been made up from a sketch or sketches made when the mill was in operation, long before Timperlake's time. In any case the result-

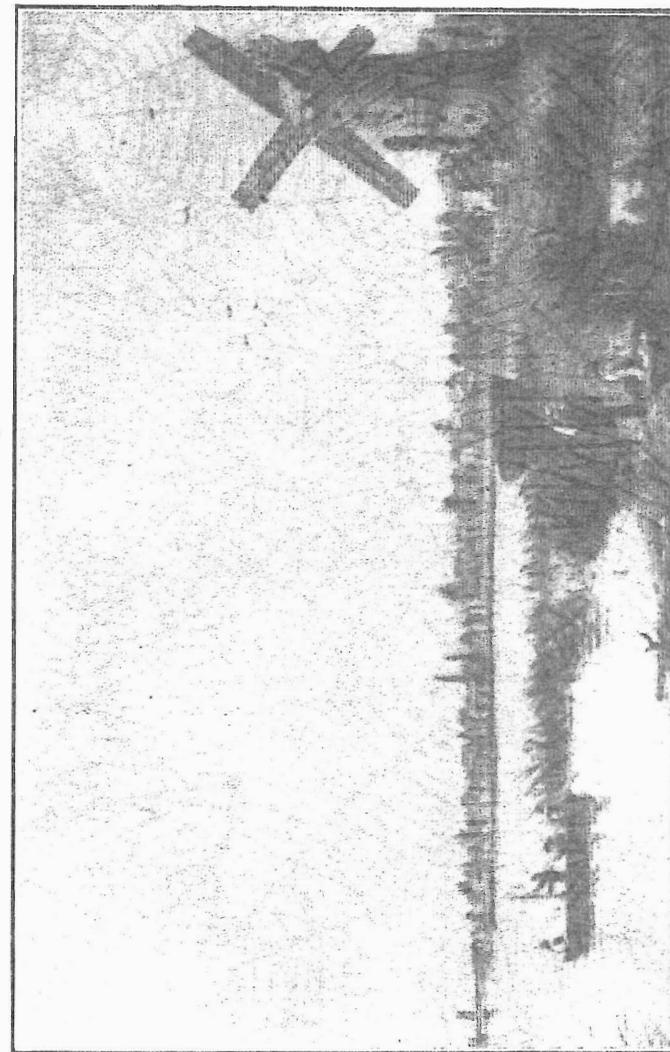
ing picture is in conformity with other evidence and may be accepted as coming as near to the truth as is possible. The assumption that the York windmill was of a revolving type is entirely untenable.

It was not until the autumn of 1832, or about a year after the foundation was laid, that the mill was so far completed as to admit of flour production. The first run commenced on October 5th and terminated on December 13th, a period of ten weeks, with an output of 239% barrels of flour, besides the so-called pollard, which then included middlings, shorts and bran.

The first recorded sale was on October 27th, when five barrels were sold at 25s. each, to Robert Ferrier, a King Street baker. William Jackes, Thomas Riddell, and Alexander Rennie, in the same line of business, and on the same street, were also good customers, purchasing about five barrels per week, as did William Creighton, whose shop was on Market Lane, now Colborne Street.

Most of the output of the mill was sold in barrel lots, directly to customers, of whom a list would embrace most of the prominent citizens of the little town.

Among the many names in the old account books of this time are those of Sir John Colborne, Sir W. Campbell, Chief Justice J. B. Robinson, Judge J. B. Macaulay, Hon. Mr. Powell, Hon. George Crookshanks, Sheriff Jarvis, Col. Rowen, Captains Bonnycastle, Phillpotts, Hurd, McIntosh and De-



WILLIAM GOODERHAM'S OLD MILL, 1833.

Grassi; Revds. Strachan, **Stinson**, Dade, Stewart, Barry and **Barben**; Drs. Widmer, Diehl, Kees and Harris; Messrs. Robert **Baldwin**, C. C. Small, S. **Ridout**, G. **Ridout**, G. Gurnett, Jesse Ketchurn, John **Scadding** and a host of others. Deliveries to the "Soup Kitchen" suggest rather bad times, and to the credit of the Windmill it may be said that a good many barrels of flour found their way to this institution at a much reduced price. Charges against the "Greenland Fishery" apply to the inn or hotel which was so styled and was carried on at the north-west corner of Front and John Streets, deriving its name from its sign, on which a Greenland scene had been depicted by a hard-up sailor artist, who had worked out his lodging bill in this way.

The total amount of wheat ground up to the end of 1832 was 2,991 bushels, of which the average price was 93 cents. There were sold 354½ barrels of flour, usually worth about five dollars each, besides 67 stones of wheat which was then called meal, and, latterly, wheaten meal. The pollard or "offal" must have realized, for feed, quite a respectable sum, the price being about 10d. per stone.

An idea of the charge for gristing may be obtained from an entry on October 27th reciting a form of blank contract: "Mr. _____ agrees to deliver 20 bushels of wheat, 64 pounds to the bushel, for which he is to receive 4 barrels of flour." Comparatively little business of this kind

was done, as most of the grain was purchased outright by the **firm**.

An exception must, however, be made in the case of William Arthur, whose dealings in this line came in for almost daily mention under such titles as "Arthur's Corn, "Wheat, middlings, rye or malt." The latter indicated brewing or distilling interests, and this is more closely defined by an entry on Sept. 17th of delivery to "Arthur's distilling house." By reference to **Walton's** U.C. Commercial Directory, published in October 1833—a copy of which was then purchased for three shillings, by the **firm**—it is shown that William Arthur had a warehouse at 83 King Street, which would locate him near the market, as the numbering then commenced at Mrs. Eliza Small's house at the corner of Berkeley Street. He appears to have been a grocer, in which line he was succeeded by his son, George, though in another location which was in the vicinity of the Coffin Block. Col. William Arthur, as the name was afterwards spelled, was another son. The location of the distillery has proved quite **difficult**, but, by the testimony of Mr. **Pearson**, formerly of the Gas Works, who came to Toronto in 1839, it was across the Don, in a line with **Gerrard** Street. If this is correct it is most **likely** that the building was on the flats, as a plentiful supply of water would be required, and also easy drainage, more especially as hogs were kept. This is made evident by an advertisement in the Patriot of **December** 6th. 1832, when William Arthur asked for "2,000

'bushels of distilling grain and 200 hogs.'" Arthur was also the owner of the Wood-Duck, a small schooner purchased in 1828.

Another name which crops up quite frequently in the old day book, in connection with transactions in flour, and also in relation to financing, is that of Joseph Lee, who, according to the Patriot of December 1832, and later issues, conducted the "East York Store," at 39 King Street. The stock, as advertised, comprised **almost** everything that could be asked for. Number 39 would place the shop between Caroline and Frederick Streets. To the west was the Gamble homestead and next to that, at the corner of the last named street, the office of the Canada Company, which was located in the first brick building in York, erected by Quetton St. George in 1807, and long occupied by him but ultimately leased to the Company. Directly opposite, on the south corner, was the store of William **Allan**, the westerly half of which was formerly occupied as the office of the Bank of Upper Canada, now located at the corner of Duke and George Streets. Joseph **Cawthra's** store was no longer at the corner of Caroline Street where in 1806 the foundation of his fortune was laid, but was now on Palace Street, at the west corner of Frederick Street. The new place of business had been previously occupied by Mackenzie as a printing office, and it was here that his presses and type were destroyed in reprisal of the attacks of the Advocate on the members of the Family Compact. The

house existed as early as 1804 and was the birth-place of the Hon. Robert **Baldwin**.

At this time, according to the Directory, both partners in the Windmill were living on the Kingston Road, "half a mile east of the town" which means that distance east of Berkeley Street, for it must be remembered that the road to Kingston commenced at Mrs. Small's house where King Street still shows a divergence from a straight line. The residence alluded to was probably the **O'Grady** house, purchased some two years before by Mr. Worts, and was located somewhere in the vicinity of what is now Sumach Street. Landmarks were then few and fewer still have survived. Trinity Church was not built until ten years after, but just opposite to its site a road named Chapel Street led north to St. Paul's, which had been built about nine years, and by contemporary writers was said to be one of the handsomest brick edifices in the town. It is thought in the very early days the Roman Catholic services were held in the houses of prominent residents, but the original grant of land was obtained, in 1805, by Father Macdonell, and it is almost certain that a wooden chapel was erected not long afterward, which then became the ecclesiastical centre of one of the oldest parishes in Upper Canada.

In 1833 there were very few residents on the Kingston Road between Chapel Street and the Don Bridge. The Directory enumerates a **small** grocery store, opposite Windmill Street; an empty house,

followed by the house of William Hamilton, clerk in the Bank, after this, three small houses, until the "**Brickfields**" and the residence of the Brickmaker were reached. Still further east was the **Bull's Head** Inn, kept by John Palmer, on whose signboard was the following doggerel:

"Traveller's friend and Extortioner's foe,
Call to-day, and to-morrow you'll know."

Then came another residence, **followed** by that of the 'Proprietors of the Windmill,' between which, and the Don Bridge, lived Edward Goldsmith, "Clerk in the Bank," eleven houses in **all**, starting from Power Street. Queen or Lot Street was even more sparsely settled, there being only eight houses or places of business between Yonge and Bond Streets. "Here," says the Directory, "the street is interrupted by the grounds of **Capt. McGill, S. P. Jarvis** and the Hon. **W. Allan**. Past there it is open to the Roman Catholic Church and it is intended to be carried through to the Don Bridge. Samuel **Ridout**, Esq., Edward **McMahon**, John Dempsey, gardner, Roman Catholic Church.

This digression has led the writer far afield, so to resume, it may be said that there is no evidence that much was done to the exterior of the mill, but the owners had evidently arrived at the same conclusion as others who have had to depend on the wind and thus realized its fickle and uncertain nature. It is not therefore difficult to account for the growing interest shown in steam as a motive power as evidenced by the payment of sums **total-**

ling two or three hundred pounds "due on engine," etc., to Charles Perry, of the York Steam Engine Works, which were situate at the corner of Duchess and George Streets. The instalment of the engine must have been early in the spring of 1833 as a second payment was made thereon in May. It seems likely that its purpose was that of supplementing the windmill when in a balky or too frisky mood; or assisting it when overburdened by work, but not in supplanting it as the governing power. A run of buhr stones was obtained from or through Mrs. Crickmore, of Hamilton. They arrived on June 6th and were at once put in position, probably in connection with the new engine, thus bringing the working power up to three run of stones. Sam. Clarke, who had for some time been with the firm, appears to have been the engineer, and also the general factotum of the establishment, for which services he received one pound ten (\$6.00) per week—then considered good wages for a steady job.

The business of the mill appears to have prospered in 1833, as evidenced by the sales of flour, which totalled 2,244 barrels, against 354 for the three months during which grinding had been carried on in the previous year. The increase over the calculated amount, per annum, would be 826 barrels, showing very fair progress for an enterprise conducted at such a time, and in such a place, for it must be remembered that Muddy York was not much to boast of in those days.

CHAPTER III.

A Ramble in the City in 1834

SPECULATIONS AS TO THERE HAVING BEEN SETTLERS PRIOR TO THE DAYS OF GOVERNOR SIMCOE

Forty years had passed since with blare of trumpets and boom of guns the recently appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the newly-born Province of Upper Canada proclaimed the selection of York as the seat of Government. There is no evidence of previous settlement, though, in the palmy French days, forty years earlier, considerable trading was doubtless done in the vicinity of Fort Rouille, but was brought to an abrupt close in 1759, when the Fort was burned by its defenders in order to save it from the victorious English General then hastening from Niagara.

Captain Gother Mann, of the Royal Engineers, who drew a plan of the locality in 1788, saw enough of the remains of the outlines of the buildings to indicate them by five rectangular dots, which he designated "Ruins of Trading Fort," on the *Plan of Toronto Harbour* bearing the above date, but there is no indication of any other buildings. The locality was shortly after reported on by J. Collins,