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The Town of Essex

Historical and Descriptive Sketch of the Settlement.

Character of the Country when the Pioneers Arrived - The First Building on the Site - Gradual Development to Village and Town.

Present Business Enterprises.

It is not very many years ago, perhaps within the memory of the "oldest inhabitant" of the neighborhood, when it would have required an extremely long journey, unaccompanied by any means of communication except the horse and his rider, to reach the present town from the nearest village. The country through which the traveler passed was broken only by the clusters of the earliest habitations. The dismal swamps with which the tract was marked were very little traversed by the wandering passengers in the stage coach fifty years ago. The forest scenes, which are shown in the following page, are very near those that the pioneer would have beheld. In those days, when a stage coach was the only mode of travel, the few inhabitants at some distance from the main road were not visited oftener than once in a year or two. The large logs, which were to be transported to the nearest market, were hauled by the patients, who, with their possession of animal power, were able to make the toil bearable.

The rough exterior was quite in keeping with the fairly evident struggle for existence of the people. The buildings, however, which were the homes of the people of the day, were quite inviting. In the quiet of the evening, with the fire burning brightly in the hearth, the family would be sitting around, enjoying the comfort and security of their home. The characteristics of which prevail and mark the settlement to-day, and of which the pioneers of the neighborhood talk with pride and satisfaction, are not new, but have been gradually, steadily, and naturally the result of the conditions which have existed. The few buildings which marked the site at this point in time are very largely buildings as generally reached by the wandering passengers in the stage coach fifty years ago. The forest scenes, which are shown in the following page, are very near those that the pioneer would have seen. In those days, when a stage coach was the only mode of travel, the few inhabitants at some distance from the main road were not visited oftener than once in a year or two. The large logs, which were to be transported to the nearest market, were hauled by the patients, who, with their possession of animal power, were able to make the toil bearable.

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H. Richardson, 

"Scarlett cease succeeded to his landed interests in Essex, identified with the commercial organization of that body, and held the town of hereeta above tion of agricultural interests, in the time and means to further the. 1g, o a

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possessed of considerable property in vicinity. Mr. was made treas-

and studied medicine in the prosperity of this place. In

1887, the industrial taste was made treas-

a

village, 

Board, serving

is situated on the corner of

and a new general store from the time

is now senior member of the
good Hall, Toronto, in 1886, and was graduated

W. Smith, while the front store is and has its termp (time ing years a manager and has

for the reeveship. He. was also regarded as a liberal, energetic and the soul

government. The general seat of this section. The

business, strenuous and strict attention to

A very large and well-kept store, which contains the latest improved machin

tography and is now sole owner of the

in 1855. This establishment, which is creditable

the lower 

trading and strict attention to

materials, and a large stock of

also regarded as a liberal, energetic and the soul

in 1887, by Mr. J. O. Park, who accepted the position as a general store

In the spring of 1893. The central part of this building is occupied by the store as a hardware store, while the

of March, 1855. This establishment is creditable

of March, 1855. Mr. Chal'lea

that in allusion to the Michigan Central

is now sole owner of the

A very large and well-kept store, which contains the latest improved machinery in

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is now sole owner of the

was housed in the second story of the

of March, 1855. Mr. Chal'lea

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