

EARLY HISTORY
of
THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS
of the Province of Quebec
by

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Eastern Townships - the general title given to the counties in Quebec extending from those along the Richelieu River to those which border the Chaudiere River. The International line bounds the counties on the south, while its northern limits are formed by the counties along the St. Lawrence River. Eleven counties go to make up this region, whose names tell something of the story of their different origin from other parts of the Province. Given in alphabetical order, they comprise Arthabaska, Brome, Compton, Drummond, Megantic, Missisquoi, Richmond, Shefford, Sherbrooke, Stanstead and Wolfe. Together these counties form a district of nearly 4,460,000 acres, supporting in 1926 a population of 266,219. The Eastern Townships are a natural agricultural country, containing some of the best farm and grazing land in the Province.

Forest products add greatly to its wealth. Manufacturing reaches to wide limits. Water powers are numerous and transportation ample. There are 25 towns and cities averaging from one to twenty-five thousand people. This remarkable region was utterly neglected during more than half of the history of Quebec, the period when the French held Canada, and when only the stray trapper or the wandering missionary had penetrated its forest depths.

One who knew the Townships well, wrote this appropriate description: "Naught disturbed the solitude of this vast region save the cry of the water fowl as it winged its way over Lake Memphremagog or the howl of the wolf from the rocky den on the shores of Mt. Tom. The old world has been rent by wars; dynasties have risen, flourished and disappeared; yet that bewitching expanse of forest, lakes and mountains, threaded by rivers, continued undisturbed, its beauty and wealth alike unknown. From a sky as clear as that of Italy, the sun bathed this region of romantic beauty, summer followed summer, autumn dyed its forests in hues of gold and scarlet while winter mantled it in ice and snow. All of this loveliness, for uncounted centuries, was unseen by man save some lone Indian in search of game.

It must be a baffling thought to the dweller of the old world that a stretch of country larger and fairer than that for which kings fought and vast armies perished, could remain unknown and unoccupied, down to a period almost within memory of a few yet living."

Prior to 1795, there were no legally granted Townships, and by 1814 there were 150. A few years later, those granted covered half as much territory as the ancient seigniories.

The definition of a township is hard to state in a few words. Bouchette's usual township was 10 by 10 miles, or 11 ranges of 28 lots of 200 acres each, plus roads. An Englishman who was given the problem stated that a township is a parallelogram which sometimes contains 20 to 36 square miles, or sometimes 100 to 144 square miles. The French Canadian colonization was by strips, while the British Canadian was by squares.

The actual settlement of the Eastern Townships was characterized by several phases. The first began about 1792, although there were squatters on some of the land before this date. The pioneers of this period which extended over two decades (20 years), came principally from the United States, many being United Empire Loyalists. Many also migrated because the land was better than they had seen. The second period, 1814, was that following the end of the Napoleonic wars when settlers came from Great Britain. It was the period when former soldiers secured many of the concessions of 200 acres. The third phase began in 1830 with the formation of the British American Land Company and other Immigration organizations which

brought many Scotch and Irish settlers.

With 1850 began the movement of the French Canadian into the Townships, and also a beginning of English speaking people going to the west part of Canada, and which has continued since.

The completion of the Grand Trunk Railway added greatly in bringing about the change in the character of the population and in the settlement of the scantily occupied portions.

In the first phase,,the Constitutional Act of 1791 made the Townships possible for lands and was known as the "free and common socage" Act. Many well known men from the United States and England received large grants of from 1000 to 5000 acres, during this period. One Nicholas Austin from New Hampshire in 1793, received 62,671 acres around Bolton for himself and his associates. Some of our townships were settled almost exclusively by pioneers from Vermont and New Hampshire. These early comers settled around Lake Memphremagog, Shipton on the Nicolet River, Brompton, Melbourne, Ascot, Richmond and Kingsley. One of the centres was around Missisquoi Bay in 1785, and were mostly of Dutch extraction, who had taken up 187 lots of 200 acres each.

The second phase from 1815 saw all parts of the British Isles represented among those coming to the Townships. Drummondville in 1816 was started as a village for veterans of the war of 1812 and 1814. About this time Megantic County and sections as far as Sherbrooke began to receive settlers, and roads began to be built. Before 1830 the Merrick road which runs up the Chaudiere River connected with the Kennebec River in the State of Maine. A stage coach ran over roads built opposite Three Rivers (Doucet's Landing) to Richmond with its 12 houses at this time, and on to Sherbrooke with 50 houses and terminated at Stanstead Plain, a distance of 129 miles. At this time there was an 80 mile route from Richmond via Sutton to Farnham and thence on to Montreal. The most rapid in the early growth in population was from 1820 to 1828.

In 1820 grants of land were made through a Government Agent. He superintended the settlement of each township and was obliged to live in or near the township he controlled. In 1827, the Government did away with agents and sold the land direct to buyers.

The third phase beginning in 1830, started a flood of immigrants by which the Townships profited greatly. In 1833, the British American Land Company of London, England, bought 1,324 square miles of Crown Reserve lands for 120,000 pounds. In 1823 a land company had been proposed to bring to Quebec Province a great body of immigrants. The Crown and Clergy prevented this company being formed. Had it been carried through, as was the case in Ontario, the Province of Quebec would have received a great increase of English speaking people. There never was such a flood from the British Isles (landing at Quebec) as flowed into Ontario during this period, simply because Ontario was not handicapped as regards the sale of land and welcomed British stock. The British American Land Company with an office in Quebec, settled many families, especially in Compton County during 1838, and later in Megantic County, but nothing to be compared to those who passed Quebec to settle in Ontario. From 1830 to 1848 the immigration from abroad was large, particularly from Ireland. The potato famine there in 1834 caused a wholesale exodus. In 1847 the famine laid hold of both Ireland and Scotland, and nearly 100,000 immigrants sailed for Canada, although some 9,000 died on the voyage.

The French Canadian continued to be in the majority in the Townships until after 1840, when the Government obtained control of the clergy and Crown lands.

The fourth phase starting in 1854, has continued until the present time. The French have gradually increased their farm holdings and many towns and villages which formerly had a large majority of English, are now reversed, and the French predominate because conditions were favourable to them.

As regards transportation, Governor Craig and others built roads and in 1852 the old St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railway (later known as the G.T.R.) was built and by its branches tapped a large portion of the Townships. In 1875 the Quebec Central Railway was built. This railway from Quebec to Sherbrooke had its southern terminal at Megantic, and which from there, gave a short line connection to Quebec and that district. The Canadian Pacific Railway or that part of it which was constructed as the International Railway about 1879, ^{under the title St. Francis and Megantic Railway} is one of the principal through lines in the district. It started as a local enterprise in 1870, and is now a link in the short line between Montreal and Saint John, N.B. The Hereford Railway was built in 1887 and then leased to the Maine Central in 1890. It is due principally to our railways that the Townships have such splendid shipping facilities to the United States, and to other parts of Canada. Many of the towns and villages are located where they are on account of the pioneer setting up his mill on a water power site and which became the nucleus of a future commercial manufacturing centre. Until the present century, however, the larger development of power was confined to Sherbrooke and one or two St. Francis River towns. From 1900 to the present, cheap powers have become numerous and have proven a great attraction to manufacturing industries. At the present time some 125,000 horse power has been developed and which represents less than one-half of the total capacity of the streams within the district. Near the headquarters of the St. Francis River, the Government has constructed a dam, known as the Allard Reservoir, which has a storage of 12 billion cubic feet.

The asbestos deposits began to be developed in 1890 at Thetford Mines, Black Lake, East Broughton and at Asbestos Mines near Danville. These deposits have proven to be the richest in the world. From these mines comes 87% of the world supply and which in 1922 was 105,114 tons valued at \$6,068,471. In addition to asbestos, the Townships' minerals consist of chromite, granite, roof slate, copper, gold, limestone, and clay for brickmaking and which is found in several sections.

The forest industries have been and still are the principal natural resources of the Province. Their total value in 1925 was placed at 600 million dollars. The Townships had their full share of this prosperity, because they are heavily wooded in hard and soft timber. There was of course, more or less waste in the early days when the forest barred the way of the farmer in clearing his land. These logs were burned and the ashes sold for making potash. As the inhabitants increased, there was a larger demand for sawn lumber, and for half a century the saw-mill and potash plants were the chief industry. About 1911, the saw-mill industry reached its peak. Despite the decline, however, the Townships up to 1925 exported across the sea and to the United States, including what was used for home consumption, around 6 million dollars of sawn lumber and manufactured products of wood. Christmas trees are valued at one-half million dollars annually. The pulp wood industry overshadows all other forest production in the Province, and the Townships have kept pace. The two principal concerns of this industry are the Brompton Pulp and Paper Company at East Angus with a daily capacity of 220 tons of ground wood, 110 tons of sulphite, 120 tons of newsprint, 60 tons of box board and 30 tons of wrapping paper. The Canada Paper Company at Windsor Mills has a daily capacity of 45 tons of newsprint, 15 tons of wrapping paper, 16 tons of coloured paper and 50 tons of ground wood.

The Eastern Townships with all its many sources of wealth, really stands out as an agricultural section of the Province. It is the "Garden of Quebec", just as Kent is the Garden of England. Some of the best farming and grazing lands in the Dominion are found in the Townships, and everything that a rich soil and temperate climate can produce, is grown. As an exporter in dairy products, the farmers are in a class by themselves. Until the tariff was raised against our dairy products, some 3 million dollars in milk, cream, butter and eggs, also cheese, were annually exported to the United States alone.

Maple sugar forms a very important item among our farmers. A large revenue is also derived from cattle, sheep, poultry, swine, bees, vegetables and fruits.

The typical Townships farmer has around 250 acres divided into cultivated land, pasture land, and wood lot. As regards fruit raised, apples come first, Shefford County leading, Missisquoi next and Compton County third. Most every farmer, however, has an orchard for his own use and for local sale. In 1921 it was estimated there were 184,220 bearing apple trees, and 82,816 non-bearing and the value produced that year amounted to \$234,093. The fruit crop of 1927 was more than double these figures. Besides apples, there are peaches, pears, plums, prunes and cherries grown mostly for domestic use.

Dairying in the Townships is of great importance. Our Province introduced cattle in 1610, and there were a considerable number in 1629.

The Province produced the only registered pure bred dairy cows to be developed in the Dominion. The first centrifugal cream separator to be used in America was in the village of St. Mary de Beauce in 1882. It is only about 50 years since Quebec became a dairy Province.

The Townships made the beginning and still holds the lead. Most of the 6,500 square miles offer advantages for raising the best breed of dairy stock. The quality and quantity of pasturage, the pure drinking water, the central location for transportation make it a banner dairying section. In 1864 the first cheese factories were built in Missisquoi County. At the present time there are 450 creameries and cheese factories scattered over the Townships. The following figures give the importance of the industry in 1925:

Counties	Number of Cows milked	Milk Produced Pounds	Milk & Cream Produced \$
Arthabaska	20,450	72,630,598	1,593,268
Brome	20,195	79,563,851	1,719,224
Compton	16,472	68,113,650	1,294,234
Drummond	16,183	58,172,904	1,271,875
Megantic	12,970	45,063,493	1,052,496
Missisquoi	17,364	69,434,345	1,468,106
Richmond	16,128	58,827,900	1,269,871
Shefford	25,521	95,487,219	1,938,629
Sherbrooke	5,748	24,564,128	601,748
Stanstead	15,911	71,006,316	1,349,120
Wolfe	14,654	48,916,470	1,051,812
TOTAL.....	182,490	691,780,874	\$14,610,385

As regards the resources of our Townships, the importance of them may be derived from the following figures for 1926:

Asbestos	\$ 6,000,000
Pulp and paper.	5,000,000
Lumber and other forest products.....	5,500,000
Butter and cheese	2,000,000
Live stock.....	1,000,000
Maple Sugar.....	800,000
Lime.....	200,000
Brick.....	75,000
Granite.....	60,000
Soapstone.....	50,000
Potatoes.....	35,000
Hay and straw.....	20,000
Manufactured goods	800,000
Christmas trees	400,000
All other freight.....	260,000
TOTAL.....	\$22,200,000.

Tourist traffic has become a great industry for our Townships. In 1926 nearly 200,000 motors entered the district, containing some 653,000 passengers. More than one-half million of these came from the United States. The money spent in the Province in 1926 by tourists is estimated at four million dollars, and at least one half million was left in the Townships.

The political history of the Townships began in 1823 when the

district of St. Francis was established and which was at that time (Bouchette says) more than 50 miles in width and 100 miles from north to South. It covered about 3,500 square miles containing 38 townships and a population in 1831 of 13,500 people. At this period the one-half dozen counties were split up into what is now the 11 counties. At this date also (1831) Sherbrooke contained about 50 houses, and Stanstead Village was next in importance. Prior to this date, Sherbrooke County had an area of 2,786 square miles, being about 68 miles in length and 57 miles in breadth, and with a population of 5,471. There were in this large area 3 churches, 9 schools, 16 corn mills, 30 saw mills, 4 carding mills, 2 distilleries, 2 tanneries, 11 potash factories, 11 pearl ash factories, 2 shop keepers, 5 taverns and 58 artisans. There were 30,120 acres under cultivation and potatoes and Indian corn were the principal crops. There was a total of 28,000 heads of horses, oxen, cows, sheep and swine.

In 1840 at the union of Upper and Lower Canada, the Town of Sherbrooke was created and in 1853 the county was split into the counties of Compton, Richmond and Wolfe. In 1875 Sherbrooke received its charter as a city.

A summary of the history of the Townships would be that the district was not settled by any special influx of pioneers, nor have its political affairs been of large moment.

The land was fitted for development and the Townships system made it possible.

Resources were such, that its settlement, it was thought, would be speedy and its prosperity rapidly attained. Racial, political and military matters prevented a rapid growth.

The best of its history has been made during the past 50 years. In 1890 there were few industries, little of the water power had been developed, and electricity was in its infancy. Mining operations were just getting under way, towards the close of the last century. The asbestos deposits had been explored, but operations had not commenced on any large scale. Lumbering was one of the first industries, but pulp and paper mills were yet to be built. Even agriculture was plodding along in the style of the pioneers. Tourists and vacationers to the beauty of the Townships is of the most recent growth.

The following taken from an historical chronology published by the Sherbrooke Daily Record in 1927 on the celebration of its 30th Anniversary of its first issue February 9th, 1897, and is of interest and value on this write up of the Townships.

- 1897 - February 23rd big fire at Windsor Mills-worst in history of the Eastern Townships to date, loss \$50,000.
March 31st, Sherbrooke Golf Club organized with 18 charter members, Capt. J. A. Ready,
May 29th, E.T. Mining and Development Company with capital of \$500,000. Hon. John MacIntosh, President, Hon. Henry Aylmer, Managing Director.
August 18th, 100th Anniversary of settlement of Brome County, celebrated at West Brome, on farm of Ebenezer Miltimore.
November 1st, Sherbrooke Street Railway formerly opened. Over 200 citizens and visitors went from Sherbrooke to Lennoxville and around the belt.
- 1898 - August 18th, Centennial celebration on shore of Lake Memphremagog on the 100th Anniversary of settlement of Bolton Township.
- 1899 - February 2nd, Quebec Government decided to grant Sherbrooke a \$60,000 Court House.
- 1900 - August 15th, Kingsey celebrates Centennial, Danville, Melbourne and other villages join in celebration. Monument is unveiled by Mayor Wadleigh.
August 29th, 100th Anniversary of Dudswell. Celebration at Bishop's Crossing and monument unveiled.

- 1901 - July 29th, New St. Francis Mill at Windsor Mills destroyed by fire. Loss \$250,000.
October 3rd, Sherbrooke welcomes T. R. H., the Duke and Duchess of York, large assemblage of people from the Townships.
- 1902 - January 30th, Gales Factory at Waterville its chief industry burned.
- 1903 - June 4th, fire and drought in Eastern Townships. Worst in 50 years.
- 1904 - August 11th, rails of Orford Mountain Railway laid across town lines below Potton and Bolton. Judge Foster of Knowlton officiating.
- 1905 - May 24th, Palmer Cox presents his Brownie Band to audience in his home town Granby.
- 1906 - September 11th, formal opening of St. Francis District Court House at Sherbrooke. Premier Gouin, Chief Justice Sir Alexander Lacoste, Sir Melbourne Tait and other notables present.
- 1906 - October 28th, congregations of Three Rivers celebrate 90th Anniversary of Church. 110 years since services were first held in Stanstead.
- 1907 - February 1st, Megantic and Agnes united as town of Megantic.
May 7th, Sherbrooke's Jewish congregation formally organized.
July 16th, Sherbrooke's pop given as 14,712, an increase of 763 from last year.
July 25th, The fiftieth (50th) Anniversary of Owl's Head Masonic Lodge and over 200 attend meeting in the famous natural lodge room at the top of the mountain.
September 24th, street delivery of mail begins in Sherbrooke.
December 28th, Sherbrooke's new civic hospital on Drummond Road completed.
- 1908 - September 28th, fires at Megantic, Spaulding Township laid waste.
October 23rd, some 3,000 acres burned in Stoke Township, ten mile fire line.
- 1910 - April 28th, Brownie Castle in Granby invaded by friends of Palmer Cox who was presented with an address and gifts on his 70th birthday.
- 1911 - January 4th, St. Francis College at Granby burned with a loss of \$75,000.
June 16th, corner stone of Sherbrooke's new Protestant School on Drummond Street (Lawrence School) laid with imposing ceremony.
- 1912 - November 9th, Rural delivery in Townships begin.
- 1914 - January 3rd, Government buys two properties near Lennoxville for the Experimental Farm.
January 3rd, New Quebec Central Railway building in Sherbrooke opened to the public.
June 18th, Duke and Duchess of Connaught visit Sherbrooke, Lennoxville, Magog and take trip on Lake Memphremagog.
August 18th, Old Home Week in Coaticook opens Barnston honors memory of late Nathaniel Jenckes, M.D., with memorial tablet which was unveiled on this occasion.
Illuminations and numerous celebrations took place during the week at Coaticook.
August 18th first of Sherbrooke's Units leave for Valcartier.
August 24th, first Sherbrooke contingent is off. Eastern Townships like other places rest under the war cloud. All parts raising contingents for the fighting overseas.

- 1915 - June 4th, ten thousand people from all parts of the Townships assemble in Sherbrooke to bid farewell to the 5th C.M.R. Mayor James MacKinnon extends official farewell in His Majesty's Theatre. It was then that Col. Baker said "Remember we only want good men." October 11th, disastrous fire at Stanstead, 50 buildings burned and loss \$200,000.
- 1916 - May 29th, presentation of colors to 117th Battalion from people of the Townships. Ceremony in His Majesty's Theatre. Bishop Williams of Quebec consecrates colors. Men leave May 30th. 35th Battery also went overseas in 1916. October 9th, first sod turned on site of new Bishop's College School, Lennoxville.
- 1919 - March 18th, Townships welcome 5th C.M.R., 150 miles of welcome. September 22nd, first E. T. Aeroplane landed at North Hatley. Lieuts. McRea and McKay. October 29th, Prince of Wales welcomed to Sherbrooke, Lennoxville and other places in the Townships.
- 1920 - February 2nd, Sherbrooke's building plans call for expenditure of \$2,500,000. November 16th, formal opening of Canadian Connecticut Cotton Mills.
- 1921 - January 6th, Wales Campaign (Wales Home) opened with banquet at New Sherbrooke House. Objective \$300,000. March 16th, Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and Lady Anne Cavendish visit Sherbrooke, Lennoxville, Coaticook and other Township places.
- 1922 - June 5th, announcement that Coaticook and Norton (Coaticook-Norton) Highway will be built. July 21st, Eastern Townships secures large asbestos industry.
- 1923 - March 19th, serious fire at Coaticook. Many buildings destroyed and loss \$110,000. June 15th, big fire at Thetford Mines. Asbestos plant burned, loss \$300,000. July 19th, corner stone of the new Masonic Temple, Sherbrooke, laid with impressive ceremony. Rev. Dr. Reid, the speaker.
- 1924 - September 30th, earthquake shocks in parts of the Townships. November 21st, unique Hydro-Electric developments planned at Coaticook, and rate-payers authorize council to borrow \$150,000.
- 1925 - October 29th, Eastern Townships again returned solid Liberal. Conservatives largest group. December 24th, Sherbrooke City is 50 years old. City charter bears date December 24th, 1875, sanctioned by Queen Victoria.
- 1926 - June 1st, Q.C.R. took over B. & M. Railway from Sherbrooke to Newport. June 20th, notable event at Griffin's Corners, Stanstead, the 85th anniversary of Union Church. November 7th, Sherbrooke's Memorial Monument to Heroes unveiled.
- 1927 - March 29th, New electric power at Coaticook turned on for the first time. June 12th, the 121st anniversary of founding of Methodist, now United Church of Hatley, observed by special services. Also the 121st anniversary of first Methodist Church in Cassville, special services with Rev. E.M. Taylor, M.A., veteran pastor, as preacher. August 6th, reports show that Eastern Township cream shipped to New England is 22 carloads daily. August 13th, New Country Club, Sherbrooke, opened. October 4th, The 48th Annual ploughing match, Sherbrooke Ploughmen's Association. October 12th, the 50th annual ploughing match of Missisquoi County. November 4th, High water in Eastern Townships and Eastern States, worst in years. November 14th, First train over flooded area, from Sherbrooke to Newport.

November 20th, Colder weather checks flood.

1927 - December 1st, Cold wave sweeps country.

December 1st, Reports show that November was most abnormal month, as regards weather conditions and results, for the past 50 years.

In giving a summary of the various Townships, which make up our Eastern Townships, I will take them alphabetically and begin with Arthabaska.

Arthabaska County comprises 441,720 acres. Of this 216,260 acres can be classed as improved land, 136,624 acres of forest land, and the balance in unimproved land. It is relatively poorly settled, having in 1927 some 3000 farmers. The population has diminished during the past 50 years. In 1870 there were 17,611 people and in 1927 only 14,373. Most of the farms are rather large in area. The raising of farm animals and dairying are engaged in and the settlements have their creameries, also butter and cheese factories. Lumbering has been an active industry for more than half a century. Saw mills are numerous. The Townships in this County include Bulstrode, Stanford, Horton, Chester, Warwick, Fingwick and Arthabaska. By 1880 French Canadians were attracted into the county. The increase of population were all of French origin.

Victoriaville at this time had some 400 inhabitants and was called Arthabaska Station, on account of the G.T.R. as also a branch having been built opposite Three Rivers to Arthabaska. East some three miles lies St. Christophe d'Arthabaska, the capital of the county, where were located the County Buildings, jail, church, printing establishment for the weekly newspaper, saw and flour mills, potash factories and stores. Today it is the educational centre, containing two colleges, a convent and a monastery. It also has the honour of being the home town of the late Sir Wilfred Laurier.

Victoriaville (formerly Arthabaska Station) is the commercial centre, having made a steady growth during the last half century. In 1900 there were 1693 inhabitants, in 1910 3759 and in 1927 some 5000. The town contains varied manufacturing concerns, a large Catholic Church, ^{college}convent, academy for boys, numerous stores, three banks. Its electric power is derived from the Shawinigan Power Company.

Warwick, some 32 miles from Richmond and 40 miles from Quebec City, has numerous manufactures and has made advance during the past years. It is also a farming centre.

Brome County has an area of 304,676 acres and is made up of 4 townships, viz., Brome, Bolton, Sutton and Potton. It is called the mountain county of the district. Brome Mountain, a somewhat separated peak, stands in the North west corner. Pinnacle Mountain is located in the South west section. Out of the fertile valley flows the Yamaska River or rather a branch. Crossing diagonally in the South west part is the Sutton range of mountains which is an irregular chain, dividing the waters flowing north from those entering Lake Memphramagog and Missisquoi. Round Top, 2,900 ft. is the highest of the Brome Mountains. Brome Lake is a charming piece of water 9 miles in circumference, and circular in shape. The central valley of this section is 65 miles from Montreal, and which has been connected from the early days with a good road and railway. Brome Lake has been a favoured summer resort for Montreal people. Of late years there is quite an influx during the summer of people from the United States. From the standpoint of agriculture, it is considered good, and it is also well forested. The saw mill is a familiar sight and timber in connection with dairying, are important resources. Iron, copper and other minerals were discovered by the pioneers and some have been worked in past days. The population in 1927 was placed at 12,432, and number of farms 2,083. The county has a fair majority of English speaking people. Like other farming and lumber sections, the population has decreased, as in 1871 there were 13,757. There are numerous villages, each a centre of a fertile farming section. Knowlton was early made the county town, even though Sutton exceeds it in size. The other villages are Bolton Centre, E and S, Bolton, Bolton Glen and Brome. The farms in Brome County have a finished appearance and the villages have been modernized. The atmosphere and color of most of the settled parts remind one of England, or the older regions of the New England States. They have a charm that appeals to the stranger.

Compton County, considered the largest, has an area of 570,198 acres. Its forest area is 300,434 acres, rocky and waste land 166,440 acres,

and improved land 98,626 acres. Population in 1927 was 18,786. It contains numerous villages but only 3 having 1000 or more, viz., Cookshire, Scotstown, Sawyerville, Megantic and East Angus. Its townships comprise Hereford, Compton, Auckland, Emberton, Newport, Ditton, Eastbury, Bury, Lingwick and Hampden.

Hereford Township was formed in 1800 through a grant to a James Rankin. The Maine Central skirts the east side and known as the Hereford Railway, built in 1889. A Mr. F. Paquette formed a colony of repatriated French Canadians in what was known as the "Gore" a narrow strip of land on the west side of the township. Paquetville is the largest village with Hereford and East Hereford coming next. Commins Mills is the port of entry, and really forms part of Beecher Falls, Vt.

Compton Township was granted in 1802 to Jesse Pennoyer, N. Coffin, Jos. Kilborne and their associates, all of whom came from the United States. Jesse Pennoyer had been on the ground since 1796, having settled just below the present village of Waterville. The Coaticook, Salmon and Moes Rivers supply drainage for the township, as also small water powers. Nowhere can one find better farms. Dairying is the principal occupation, cheese and butter are made on a large scale and a large amount of milk is daily shipped to Montreal. The population in 1815 was 700 and in 1830 had increased to 1200. Until the village of Compton was set off in 1893, it was the most populous township in the county. In 1891 the census of the township was 2409 inhabitants, but in 1927 only 2000.

Compton Village with 500 population, is strictly a rural centre. An Experimental Farm was established here in 1893 where regular courses in agriculture were taught.

Clifton Township, adjoining Compton on the east, was erected in 1799. This township was noteworthy for its standing timber and although saw mills have been cutting this into lumber for a century, a great deal still remains. The first settler was Isaac Thurber in 1798. He was succeeded in two years by Isaac Lindsay who worked the same farm for 7 years without a neighbour. At first this township was joined with Compton, Eaton and Hereford for municipal and school government and did not have a separate existence until 1853. In 1873 East Clifton was set up as a municipality with an area of 10,000 acres. In 1896 there was another division of the township, mainly along racial lines. One part known as Martinville composed of English speaking people, and St. Edwidge, composed of French. Martinville derived its name from the fact that Daniel Martin came there in 1838, built a dam and saw mill (old stylo upright) and the village that grew up around the mill became known as Martin's Mills and later Martinville.

St. Edwidge had for its first settler Charles McClary, Later the member for Compton County in the Provincial Parliament. This village attracted many French. Racial lines are no longer a separation, because Martinville at present is mostly French.

Auckland, Ditton, Newport and Emberton Townships form a group on the east side of the county, none of which are largely populated, because timber has been the main resource, and this was exploited relatively late. Although situated close to the American border, these townships were off the natural lines of entry and were overlooked in the migration from the United States. Today these four townships support a population of 3800, according to the census figures of 1926. Auckland 626, Ditton 1600, Newport 758, and Emberton 717. In area Auckland has 19,233 acres, Ditton 38,981, Newport 61,150 and Emberton 46,900 acres. Fully two-thirds of the area of these four townships are classed as forest lands, Auckland being the exception in having only one half of her area wooded. Auckland was granted in part in 1806 to about 30 people but no settlement was made up to 1831. A sort of foot path ran through it which was made and used by the Indians on their way to the Chaudiere River. Emberton was erected as a township in 1870, although surveyed in 1864. The discovery of gold in the Little Ditton River led to the opening of the land, but gold was not found in paying quantities. One Alfred Cardinal was the sole inhabitant of this section from 1870 to 1873, and he was found frozen to death a short distance from his cabin. A Belgian immigrant named Homore Dion took the place of Cardinal, and the first child born in Emberton was of his family numbering 8, who, in turn, were the solitary residents of this great area.

Newport Township was erected in 1801 and granted to a number of individuals. In 1791 Alured Clark, then Governor of Lower Canada, granted the Township to Stephen Williams of Danbury, Vt. and 40 of his associates. Williams failed to make good, so Edmund Heard and Josiah Sawyer set out in 1793

from Missisquoi Bay and settled themselves on Pleasant Hill in Newport. About one year after they brought their family. Heard petitioned for the township in 1797 and had the patent issued to him in 1801. This township is thought to have held the first municipal meeting in the Eastern Townships as the records go back to September 28th, 1799. There are now many little hamlets scattered through Newport, nearly all of which have a sawmill. Some have cheese factories because this township is becoming more and more a dairying section.

Ditton Township was constituted in 1803 and granted to a number of individuals. There was no attempt to settlement until 1862. In 1864 gold was discovered but the Hon. Henry Pope, one of the most active promoters and benefactors of Compton County bought up much of the land along the gold bearing stream and set men to mining it. The gold was never found in paying quantities, however. In later life Mr. Pope wore a massive gold chain and remarked "I worked a good many years to get this chain even at the wholesale price." Although the district was mined for twenty years, he got more gold from his section than did the others.

Lumbering has been carried on with increasing activity during the last 40 years and the population has doubled, which is an exception as regards conditions in other sections.

Eaton Township is one of the largest and most populous in the county. It was set up in 1800 and part of it granted to Josiah Sawyer and his associates. Sawyer, after whom Sawyerville was named, was probably the first settler in 1794. In 1798 a second contingent moved in, among whom was John Cook, whose name is found in the village of Cookshire. The continuation of Craig's Road was laid through Eaton, Cookshire, Sawyerville, Clifton and Hereford about 1815.

The Eaton and St. Francis Rivers were the chief means of transportation before the G.T.R. was built some years later. In 1815 Eaton had a population of 600. One Alden Leonard left on record the following: "The 6th of June 1816, it commenced to snow with the wind from the north west, and it continued for three days the weather as cold as in winter. The leaves were all killed and nearly all of the birds died. On account of the cold summer and hard frosts for two or three years in succession, provisions of all kinds were very high, flour selling from \$15.00 to \$18.00 a barrel. Many of the farms were left vacant and half the settlers left the country. In 1820 conditions were reversed, the spring breaking early and all crops grew wonderfully and ripened early."

The British American Land Company in 1833 did a great deal in bringing about the settlement of Eaton township. This Company owned great areas and built roads, bridges and sawmills. Schools were set up as early as 1810, although the first school district was formed in 1842, comprising Eaton, Newport, Ditton and Clinton townships. In 1831 Eaton township was divided into 2 church parishes. St. Peters at the north and St. Pauls at the south, and the population at this time was 805. In 1927 there were a dozen post offices in the township and several villages. All are rural centres, however, having sawmills, cheese factories and butter factories. Eaton Corner and Sawyerville are on the southern highway and railroad. Sawyerville is the market centre of a fine farming section and was made a separate municipality in 1892. For a time it had a large sawmill owned and operated by Pope & Ives. At present it contains a smaller sawmill, a pulp and wood mill and butter factory. Population in 1926 was around 500.

Cookshire with a population in 1926 of 1000 was incorporated in June 1892 and had been settled since 1798 and grown slowly up to the time of the building of the International Railway (now the C.P.R.). Some 50 years ago, the Cookshire people went to Eaton Corner to trade. It was made the chef-lieu of the County and derived the advantages from the Court and County buildings. Later as the junction point of the C.P.R. and the Maine Central, it became a shipping centre for the region. Mrs. Day, in her history of the Eastern Townships written in 1869, gives a very lurid account of Cookshire.

Eastbury, Bury, Lingwick and Hampden are the remaining and northern most of the townships in Compton County. Lingwick township has an area of 64,000 acres with a present population of 850. Hampden with 32,378 acres has 371, Bury with 55,738 acres has a population of 1475 and Westbury, a triangle in shape, with 12,607 acres, has a population of 375, (all taken from 1926 census). Together these four townships make up a third of the county and contains nearly half of its residents.

Bury Township dates from 1803 and years later the survey had not been completed, nor were there any settlers, other than squatters, before 1835, when the British American Land Company who had come into possession of this and the neighbouring townships in 1833, brought in immigrants from Great Britain. Through this Company, log houses were built as also roads, school houses established and churches erected. Some 2000 new comers entered Bury in 1836, but it^{is} said that many left for other fields, not having the courage to stick.

Lingwick Township was granted in part in 1807 to a number of families, but later became the property of the British Land Company. The founding of Victoria Village in 1836 was the first settlement in the district and was composed of Irish and Scotch. A second group came over in 1841 and Scotchmen moved into the township for a number of years after. Victoria from 1836 grew to 30 houses and 150 people with a saw mill, church, school house and an office of the British American Land Company. When the immigrants realized that they were expected to work^{to pay} for their passage over and also for the land, there began a general exodus which left the village with one family, a Dutchman named Rochart. He and his son were afterwards drowned in the Salmon River, and which put an end to the ill-fated Victoria. What was once a thrifty settlement was taken again by the forest.

Hampden Township was erected as a municipality in 1874 and settled by the Scotch. Scotstown, located in the centre, was incorporated in 1892. The town, well supplied with water power from the Salmon River, is also located on the C.P.R. It contains saw mills, several stores, churches, etc. The township is rather more a lumbering district than a farming one.

Westbury Township was granted to the Hon. Henry Caldwell, then the Receiver-General for Lower Canada in 1804, and which passed within a few years to his son John Caldwell. The St. Francis River flows through this section and is joined within the limits by the Eaton River. The township is well-timbered and contained settlers early, the unsettled land being purchased by the British American Land Company in 1835. Westbury had everything needed to make a thriving district, but there was a lack of harmony or unity among its people. In 1869, it was written that "certain local clauses have operated to retard the progress of the township" There^{is} lack of agreement as to where a bridge across the St. Francis River should be located which would go far to unite the two sections. Not until comparatively modern times was the bridge built. In 1857 there was but one post office in the township and that at Westbury village. In 1870 this hamlet had a population of less than 100. Even today, with the exception of East Angus, the township has under 500 people.

East Angus, the metropolis of Compton County, with 4000 people, was still in the wild forest stage in 1882, when the site and water power were purchased by William Angus of Montreal. A company was formed known as the Wil-Angus & Co., which the first year cleared the land, built a dam, railway siding, saw mill and pulp mill. This mill was located on the north side of the river. In 1891 the company sold out to the Royal Pulp & Paper Company and work then began on a large paper mill on the south side of the river. In addition the company erected houses, built a large reservoir (1895) and connected this with pipes to the village and plants. Electricity and other utilities were supplied to the people. East Angus is a good example of a company made village. In 1891 the village had no bank, no hotel worthy of the name, a gross revenue (postal) of \$470.48 and a population of 600. In 1926 the population was 4000, and the town contained 2 banks, 2 hotels, churches, schools, stores, wood working establishments and other minor industries. The pulp and paper mills which had now become a part of the Brompton Pulp & Paper Company, was a very large concern.

Drummond County, one of the northern sections with an area of 324,214 acres, had a population of 23,702, of which 2,662 were classed as farmers. The improved land totals 174,125 acres, the unimproved land 73,079 acres and the forest land (which includes the farmer's woods) covers 69,828 acres, and the waste land 6,102 acres. The French Canadian makes up 97% of the population. The county lies across the Lower St. Francis River, where the land is mostly level, only a few extreme elevations. The western corner almost reaches the Yamaska River, and takes in some of the Yamaska Plain. The scheme under which this section was opened tended to keep the French Canadian out, and not until the middle of last century did he begin to enter freely. For the most part he came from the nearby St. Lawrence farms. In less than two decades (20 years) the French population rose from 3000 to 44000 people. The county comprises the Townships of Grantham, Wickham, Simpson, Dunham and Kingsey.

Grantham Township was granted to William Grant in 1800.

Simpson Township was given as a whole in 1801 to officers and privates of the Canadian Militia who served during the siege of Quebec in 1775 and 1776. The land is low in many places but fertile. The Nicolet River sends several branches into this area.

Wickham Township had 23,786 acres granted to William Lindsay and others in 1802, but this land was neglected for two decades.

Durham Township dates from 1802 with Thomas Scott as principal proprietor. The Abenaki Indians owned 8,150 acres by letters patent. There was a small settlement on the St. Francis River as early as 1815.

Kingsley Township was granted in 1803 and had for its chief proprietor Samuel Holland, the Surveyor General for the northern district of America before the American Revolution. Dr. George Longmore and Donald McLean were other owners. While this township has splendid resources and gave promise of becoming one of the most populous, it was forty years before any real start was made. Even today it is not as well peopled as some of the other townships.

The liveliest days of Drummond County were in the 70's and a decade or two later, when lumbermen ran the river, and timber was of more importance than farming. Now the quiet ways of agriculture hold sway. The county is classed as among the best for dairying. Transportation by rail and good roads make the collection of milk from the wide scattered farms comparatively easy. A quantity of this milk is shipped to Montreal, besides a great amount of butter and cheese. The county contains 13 butter factories and 8 cheese factories. More than 1,250,000 pounds of butter are made annually by these concerns, besides a like amount by the farmers. There are two large towns in the county - Drummondville with 6,000 in 1926 and St. Joseph de Grantham with 1375. There is also a number of villages, such as Grantham 425, Kingsley Falls 425, Lefebvre 640, St. Cyrille 695, and Wickham 310.

The town of Drummondville is a very old settlement and was one of the first in the Eastern Townships to reach hamlet size. It was made the County Seat and the District Court was held there. The population in 1875 was 750, and expanded to its present size, only 6,609, after power in quantity was developed at Lord's Falls on the St. Francis River by the Southern Canada Power Company, who have a hydro plant in the town producing 18,000 horse power. Of recent date the company has developed a huge power at Hemmingway, a little further up the river a short distance from the town. Drummondville is only 62 miles from Montreal and has two railways, the C.N.R. and the C.P.R.. The town is up to date as regards stores, schools and churches. In 1926 it contained 18 plants with a capital investment of \$7,674,000. and an annual production of nearly \$5,000,000. Its industries are diversified and cover a wide list.

St. Joseph de Grantham is a pretty rural village. Its population consists mostly of retired farmers. Its industries are mostly for the farms and the business places are run to supply the surrounding agriculture community.

Megantic County is next-door-neighbour to Frontenac County on the North East and both are the two most Easterly of the Eastern Townships. Originally its area was 1,465 square miles, of which 100 years ago only a small part had been surveyed.

Frontenac County and the whole Southern section of Megantic were considered as waste land. In 1828 Megantic was the least populous of the counties in the Province, and next to the last in the value of production. By 1870 Megantic had been reduced to its present limits of 468,320 acres and had acquired a population of 18,878 people or nearly half of the 32,230, according to the 1926 census. In 1870 the forest was the chief and almost only resource used and the saw mill the chief industry. Farming during this period was not carried on in any large or practical way. Asbestos, discovered in 1847, was not mined until 1877. Copper had been discovered and mined from 1859 to 1866. Leeds was the only village worthy of the name, and was thought to have a bright future on account of its proximity to the copper and iron mines. The history of Megantic up to 1880 and later is that of a section deserted until lumbering and mining on a small scale had started. Agriculture did not occupy the centre of the stage.

The townships in the County include Nelson, Somerset, Inverness, Halifax, Ireland, Leeds, Thetford and Colraine. All with the exception of

Colraine Township had been surveyed and parts granted prior to 1815, but had few settlements. Nelson and Somerset which lie behind the old seigniories of Deschailions and Lothbiniere were granted in 1804 to officers and privates of the Canadian Militia.

They were fairly good townships watered by several small streams and the Rivers Becancour and the Du Chene, but were completely neglected for several decades.

Halifax Township, with only the South East part surveyed in 1815 had small sections granted to Matthes Scott and Benjamin Jobert, but no one had located upon them.

Inverness Township had come into possession of Jos. Frobisher as had areas of Ireland in 1810. Much of Inverness is low and valuable only for its timber. Ireland Township has quite mountainous sections but plenty of good land. The only yearly settlement made was one known as Lords where a saw mill was erected and a few families were trying to cultivate the newly cleared land.

Thetford Township was considered too mountainous and barren and too worthless to be worth the owning. A Dr. North had applied for one half of it in 1805, and received it before he knew what it was like.

Leeds Township was considered to be the choice section of the county in the days when the townships were being surveyed and set apart. One quarter of Leeds was secured by Isaac Todd in 1802, and several other tracts were granted during the next few years. Several thousand acres came into possession of some as compensation for the building of Craig's Road, so that the whole township was taken up comparatively early. One of the reasons why so many acres in this township were considered valuable was because Jos. Kilbourne in 1800 had traced a road through the region from the St. Lawrence River to the St. Francis River, the same that Sir James Craig and military road builders cleared and made in 1809. Settlers along this line were given a patent to their lots on condition of clearing a certain part of it and building a house. Contiguous to the highway Leeds Village was one of the settlements, begun under these conditions. The war of 1812 engaged the attention of both the Province and Government, and the road which had been built against the wishes of the majority in Parliament was allowed to go to ruin and the few settlers along its route soon faded to insignificant proportions. Leeds Village survived but that was about all. A revival came to the section when the lumbermen began to use the upper waters of the Becancour River which reached the township. Farming succeeded the clearing of the forest and Megantic took on the aspects of an agricultural county. It was mining, however, that was to give importance and population to the district. Asbestos, although discovered at a much earlier period, did not attain any great proportion until 1877 when 50 tons were mined. Additional discoveries led to a greater production so that from 1896 to 1911 the output rose from 10,982 to 102,224 tons. The great open cuts, typical of the modern asbestos mine, now mars the landscape in many places. This section of the Townships has become the world's chief producers of asbestos. Most of these mines are located within a few miles of Black Lake and Thetford. A second centre, East Broughton, lies some 20 miles to the north east. The third centre is a little East of Danville. The Quebec and the C.N.R. strike all of these centres and electric power is furnished by two power companies. Black Lake had a population of 2860 in 1926, and Thetford Mines 4,500 in the same year. Neither places are of any age as Quebec places go. Black Lake also has chrome mines and a few woodworking establishments.

Thetford Mines is picturesquely situated on the side of a high hill (like Black Lake) and spreads out over the valley. The refuse banks have accumulated within the town limits and at times the dust coming from the asbestos plants is very unpleasant. The better residences have been built away from the centre to escape this dust. The town is quite up to the standard in churches, schools, stores and public buildings. Most of the other centres in the county are small but pleasant villages, such as Amiante, Bernierville, Inverness, Leeds Village, Laurierville, Lyster, Robertsonville, and Riviere Blanche. Plessisville is the third largest town with a population of 2,137 in 1926. It is an industrial town containing machine shops, 2 saw mills with a capacity of producing 20 million feet of lumber annually, also other woodworking establishments, a shoe factory and butter and cheese factories. Electric power is cheap and supplied by the Shawinigan Power Company.

Missisquoi County is located in the South West part of the Townships and is considered the oldest settled part. It is most interesting and beautiful

with a reminiscence of the olden days and a tradition which still has weight. It is said that in the early days flocks of fowl were so dense at certain seasons near and on Missisquoi Bay that the sun would be obscured as though darkened by a cloud. The Indians frequented the region as a hunting ground. The county is not notable for size as its area is only 234,162 acres. Some 116,871 improved land, 60,804 unimproved land, 68,826 acres of forest and 6,102 waste land. The population in 1926 was 17,985, and 5,600 of this number are of English origin. Missisquoi is the only county in the Townships where land was held under the French seigniorial system. Parts of the seigniories of Faucault and Noyan and St. Armand were granted in 1784 to Rene Le Vasseau by French authorities. When the country was taken over by the English this section came into possession of Thos. Dunn. Dutch Loyalists settled here in 1758 and by their industry made it of great value. The St. Armand name is now retained in the two large parishes. The seigniories of Faucault and Noyan were made into civil parishes in 1822. St. Thomas de Faucault and Clarenceville were retained in Missisquoi. Parts of Noyan were detached to become the parishes of Notre-Dame-de-Stanbridge and St. George-de-Noyan-de-Henryville in 1845. The Noyan seigniority was sold in 1764 to General Christie and Captain John Campbell. In 1796 the General owned the whole, as well as other seigniories in the vicinity.

Missisquoi County now includes the townships of Farnham, Stanbridge, Dunham and Frelighsburg, the latter being the title given the seigniority of St. Armand. The municipalities not including the villages are Bedford, Clarenceville, Dunham, Farnham, Notre-Dame-de-Stanbridge and Stanbridge all of which are cantons. The parishes of St. Armand East, St. Armand West, St. Ignace-de-Stanbridge, St. Pierre-de-Veronne, Pike River, St. Sabine, and St. Thomas-de-Foucault, and Dunham are by far the largest division in the area, having 54,834 acres and a population in 1926 of 2,214. In 1926 the populations of the three towns were Farnham 4,000, Cowansville 1,700 and Bedford 1,500. Land grabbing in this section was very much in evidence around 1796, and could not be curbed until too late. The Hon. Thos. Dunn played a conspicuous part in this grabbing and secured as the leader of associates a grant of 40,825 acres in Dunham township in 1796 and this was only one of the several areas acquired by this man. With such a large territory to be disposed of, those having influence got all they could. Military officers and enlisted men were given great tracts. The British American Land Company later purchased many of these awarded tracts because those receiving them had no idea or intent to settle or improve them. You will note by what has been written that our Townships started under a heavy handicap and that they developed as well as they have is a marvel to be applauded.

Stanbridge Township is to the west of Dunham and was ceded to Hugh Finley in 1800 and consisted of 41,790 acres.

In Farnham Township 23,000 acres were turned over to Samuel Gale in 1798 and in 1805 some of the remainder was given to Col. Cuyler. In 1809 the balance of 10,176 acres were granted to John Allsop and his associates.

The seigniority and townships of Missisquoi County were considered as having much land of the best quality and the more valuable because of their proximity to the United States.

St. Armand was located on Missisquoi Bay, where the levels were low and extended towards Sutton Township in a series of increasing heights. Pike River which passes Farnham after winding its way through Stanbridge, served as a highway for the pioneers and was valuable for logging purposes. Its small tributaries were often able to furnish power for the saw and grist mill. Stanbridge averages higher and the water powers were more numerous. It was well wooded and the soil adapted to agriculture. Settlements in this section began very early and a great deal of it before the land had been surveyed as townships. By 1813 the township of St. Armand had a population of 2500 and Dunham 1600. The other parts of Missisquoi had proportionately less people, but were nevertheless well settled. Many of the pioneers had become squatters, having settled and cleared land before they had the legal right. This, of course, led to conflicting land claims and trouble between the squatters and the proprietors.

In 1927 Missisquoi County had little more than double the population it had 100 years ago and just about the same as the census of 1870 indicated. Dairying took a strong hold and fruit growing was introduced. The county ranks among the leaders for the production of apples and other fruits. Tobacco growing in some parts has also been successful. Summer boarders have been sought and should be, in a region so attractive. Farnham, Cowansville and Bedford are the only fair-sized towns in the county.

Farnham is a modern town made by the railway. It was a quiet country hamlet until the construction of the first railway in the district in 1858 called the Stanstead, Shefford and Chambly. A few years later the South Eastern Railway branched into Farnham. In the early years of the present century the C.P.R. constructed a short line from St. Johns to Farnham. It then became a railway centre and divisional point. It also has a fine through highway on the edge of the Richelieu Valley and in the midst of a splendid farming section. A centre also of the tobacco growing industry, and with the Yamaska River running through it. Farnham became a thriving place more than 50 years ago and as early as 1870 industrial plants had started. There was clay in the vicinity, and brick yards were developed. Today there are a number of important plants, besides other utilities that go to make an important centre. Agriculture supports butter and cheese factories and a tobacco factory.

Cowansville is located towards the back of the county in the broad valley between Brome and Pinnacle Mountains. The Yamaska River runs through it with water powers estimated at 1000. It is also on the through line of the C.P.R. Farmers flocked into the valley just after the war of 1812 and developed a permanent type of agriculture and which has been the basis of the town's prosperity. At the present time the town contains important plants. Copper was found and mined at one time in the hills. Early in 1802 Capt. Jacob Ruiter, after leaving New York State, arrived at Phillipsburg, but decided to push further into the wilderness to prospect. As the result a grant was made to him by the Canadian Government. Having located his claim, he built a cabin in its most attractive spot, and which happened to be the site of the present town of Cowansville. His son Nelson became a leader in the community which grew up around the father's shack, and for a time the hamlet was called Nelsonville. Later came the Cowans. Peter Cowans, the first postmaster and storekeeper and Andrew Cowans, who built the first grist mill. When the town was incorporated, it was named Cowansville. It had nearly 1000 people in 1875 and today contains more than twice that number.

Bedford with 1500 people in 1926, has had a career similar to Cowansville in industries and population. Bedford lies farther west in the Richelieu Valley, near the International boundary, and on a railway and good highway.

Pike River running through the town, takes its rise in Silver Lake Vt., and gives the town water power. Stanbridge Village, with about 400, is four miles east of Bedford, while Phillipsburg, the ancient, lies to the south a few miles.

Both Phillipsburg and St. Armand (close by) owe their advantage to being near Missisquoi Bay and its broad acres of pasture. The first settler in this vicinity was a Dutch Loyalist in 1785 and was quickly followed by others of the same nationality.

Frelighsburg, located east, is a small village with a population in 1926 of 300. Phillipsburg had 500. Both retained traces of their Dutch origin. One hears often of the Missisquoi Dutch and their spread through the Eastern Townships. Probably these so called Dutch were of German origin, who settled in Dutchess County, N.Y. Because of their loyalty to the British Crown, they found it advisable to migrate to Canada after the rebellious Colonies in the U.S. had obtained separation from England.

Richmond County, the central county of the Townships, has an area of 327,825 acres, of which 124,640 acres are improved, 71,559 acres unimproved and 18,345 acres as waste land. The population in 1926 was 22,987. It is shown that the county is the largest in acreage of fenced land and with less unimproved and waste land, and stands seventh in number of inhabitants. It lacks the hills and lakes of the border sections, but it has the St. Francis River, a dominating stream, and its agriculture has reached a high level. The county ships quantities of raw milk and uses besides a great deal for making cheese and butter. Lumbering has always been an important industry and there is still a large area of forest land. In the making of wood pulp and paper, the county ranks first. Bromptonville is the headquarters of the largest paper making company in the Eastern Townships. In shape the county is an irregular right angle triangle, with Wolfe County on the East and Drummond on the West, with Sherbrooke County at the South. Richmond Township was the first to be surveyed because it lay in the St. Francis Valley which was recognized as one of the garden spots of the Province. The other townships include Stoke, Brompton, Melbourne, Windsor, Cleveland and Shipton. Cleveland was not one of the original townships but was set off from the too large Shipton township. This was, however, before the days of asbestos which gave wealth to Shipton township. Shipton, as originally laid out, was very large, reaching

from the St. Francis River to Tingwick in Arthabaska. It contained a branch of the Nicolet River, draining the eastern part. Craig's Road passed through the middle of it, and the section was considered a fine one for growing wheat which was the great desire of the early pioneers. There was also a great deal of hard wood timber which made the best potash salts and which in those days was in great demand. Both the St. Francis and Nicolet Rivers were navigable by the bateaux. From every standpoint it was considered a prize section. Elmer Curling was much envied when he managed to secure a grant of 58,692 acres of the townships in 1803. He, however, like many others who received grants, failed to push the development of his tract. At the end of the first year, there were only 100 settled upon it.

Melbourne Township on the west side of the St. Francis River contained fertile soil and the large half was granted to Henry Caldwell in 1805 who was the means of making it the most populous township of the county. There were in 1813 some 350 inhabitants.

Brompton Township is irregular in shape and in the qualities of its surface as it is rough and rocky in parts, small swamps in others, and choice farming areas in still other parts. In 1813 its population was 200, because William Bernard and his associates endeavoured to develop it.

Windsor Township was granted to Canadian Militia officers and privates for services rendered at the siege of Quebec in 1775 and 1776 but as is usually the case these soldiers neglected to develop it, and settlement was delayed. The same happened with Stoke Township which in 1802 was granted in a like manner although eventually James Cowan became the chief proprietor and endeavoured to do something. For more than a decade after being granted, these two townships had not more than 50 settlers. In other words Richmond County, although one of the most active regions, had a population of only 800 after ten years of development. This was about doubled in the next fifteen years. By 1850 lumbering had become important and brought many settlers into the district, which gave an impetus to agriculture. By 1870 the county had a population of 11,213 and most of the towns except Asbestos were on the map. Lumbering at this period was the chief industry and the saw mill the principal plant. The Great and Little Brompton Falls were a nuisance rather than a benefit in this period, because the rivermen had to portage both up and down the river at these places, and they dreaded them. At Windsor Mills, the splendid water power had been harnessed in part and in 1870 there was already a paper mill and powder factory, besides five saw mills.

Brompton Falls or St. Francis Mills as it was called at that time was but a small village, with a large saw mill. Danville near the Nicolet River, was the mercantile centre of a large farm and lumber district, and was equal in size to the large country villages.

Richmond with 1400 population, was the county seat, educational centre, and with good public buildings. The near-by copper mines were expected to make it the metropolis of the Townships. In 1926 it had a population of 2600, was a railway junction, contained St. Francis College, a convent, academy, and milk is shipped from here in large quantities. Timber, asbestos, copper, iron and slate are some of the natural resources of the vicinity. Regardless of these, Richmond today is suffering from non-growth.

Asbestos Village, with 3600 population in 1926, is the largest centre in the county. The Canadian Johns-Manville Company is one of the important asbestos companies in the Province making finished products. They erected a large plant here and all modern utilities were planned for and provided. All sorts of asbestos articles are made in their plant such as ready roofing, shingles, packing, pipe covering, textiles, brake lining, and with new lines being added from time to time. More asbestos was produced in the Eastern Townships during 1927 than at any other period and this concern alone produced to the extent of \$750,000. and have invested in their plant \$1,071,865.

Danville in 1926 had a population of 1400. It contains schools, churches and good stores. Some of the homes have been in the family for over half a century. Its industrial plants consist of a belt factory, wood working establishment, saw and grist mills, cheese and butter factories, tannery. It is located on the C.N.R. branch from Richmond to Quebec. Some \$800,000. are invested in its plants and the value of its products in 1927 reached \$367,560.

Bromptonville, with a population of 1400 in 1927, is neither large nor handsome. It is located on the C.N.R. some 6 miles north of Sherbrooke and most of its mercantile trade goes to that city, there being a Government highway between the two. It is a town of one great industry, The Brompton Pulp and Paper Company, which has the largest capitalization of any concern in

the Eastern Townships. In 1926 its output was \$1,184,142. Its production at that time was 225 tons daily of newsprint, 220 tons of ground-wood pulp, 115 tons of sulphite pulp, 60 tons of box board, 25 tons of craft wrapping paper, 125 tons of lump lime, and a yearly output of 80 million board feet of lumber. The figures given are the combined output of the plants at Bromptonville, East Angus, Lime Ridge and Lake Frontier. This company also has mills at Claremont, N.H., and Bellows Falls, Vt.

Windsor Mills, 14 miles down the St. Francis River from Sherbrooke, is the third largest town in Richmond County, with a population of 2600 in 1926. It has large paper and pulp industries which are more than one-half a century old. Water power and forest decided their location. The cheese and butter factories round out its industries and owe their existence to the fertile farms in the vicinity. The Canada Paper Company located here has a hydro-electric plant which generates around 5000 horse power. In 1925 Windsor had 6 establishments with a capital investment of \$2,695,856 and employed 490 hands, paying out \$594,354. Value of products was \$1,992,500.

Shefford County is a great square county west of Richmond and Sherbrooke and North of Missisquoi and Brome. It is made up of the townships of Milton, Granby, Roxton, Shefford, Ely and Stukeley. All sections were early surveyed and granted; Stukeley in 1800, Shefford in 1801, Ely in 1802, Granby, Milton and Roxton in 1803.

The townships of Farnham and Brome were within the limits of Shefford County, until separated from it in the 50's, when Brome County was made at the expense of Stanstead, Shefford and Missisquoi. Old Shefford County in 1829 had a population of 4467 and three villages with a combined number of 53 houses. There were 17 schools, 26 mills (chiefly saw mills) 13 potash factories, 3 breweries and 1 church. Frost Village, two and a half miles from Waterloo, was the principal hamlet and voting place at that time (1829).

The greater part of Shefford averages well in its agricultural possibilities. It was early accessible from Missisquoi County from which many of the early pioneers entered the Townships.

Granby and Milton townships were granted in part in 1785 to officers and privates of the British Militia who saw service at Quebec in 1775-76 and were held by them for speculative purposes rather than settlement. Milton Township is on the border of the Richelieu Valley section and has much pasture land.

Ely and Roxton Townships on the north were also neglected in their early days. More than one third of Ely was given to Amos Lay, Jr., in 1802 but most of the remaining land was not granted until 1814 and 1815. Roxton Township was granted to sundry persons in 1803.

Shefford and Stukeley were both in the hilly regions where the high parts were too rocky for agriculture and the areas of fertile soil were rather scattered. Regardless of this, these two townships were the first to be settled. In 1813 Shefford had 500 people and Stukeley 300. There is no record of the names of those receiving such wide areas of land in the county, or the part they played in the advancing or retarding growth.

Granby and Milton, as military grants, received a set-back at the start for soldiering and farming seldom go hand in hand. History records that about 100 of the militia men, not being able to sell their grants, came and settled on the land, but this was not until later than 1830. The bulk of the land, and the poorest of it, came into possession of The British American Land Company, who brought a few settlers into the Township about 1834, but did little to further its growth.

Samuel Willard was the leader of a company of associates, all Loyalists, who made their homes in Stukeley. Captain John Savage and his associates, being soldiers in the New York Colonial Troops during the American Revolution, came into Canada by way of Lake Champlain, visited Shefford Township in 1792 and later settled there. Savage was a Dutch Irishman, as also several of his associates.

In Shefford County lumbering and agriculture were the principal industries. Figures for 1926 show a rather steady growth of the county as there was a population of 25,701, of which 10,000 were urban. The racial origin of the inhabitants has changed radically since the beginning, being now about five-sixths of French origin. The area of Shefford County is

369,717 acres of land, with 156,652 improved, 97,538 unimproved, 2,538 acres of forest and 60,730 acres of waste land. Waterloo, with a population in 1926 of 2000, is on the Yamaska River and has a Government highway running through it. It is also the terminus of the C.N.R. from Montreal to Waterloo and has a branch of the C.P.R. running from Sutton to Drummondville. Waterloo Lake adds to the town beauty. It contains stores, schools, churches, fair grounds and industrial plants. A fine farming section surrounds the town.

Granby, the county seat, and which had 1000 population in 1871, 3000 in 1901, 4750 in 1911, 6785 in 1921 and 8000 in 1926, has made great strides. Although located on a branch of the C.N.R., it has other communications with Montreal through an electric line and a Government highway. The town contains many important industries and has for many years been the centre of the Townships for the rubber industry. It has all the advantages of a wide awake town and is 55 miles from Montreal.

Sherbrooke County is the smallest in area, being 218,325 acres, with 103,154 acres of improved land, 27,048 acres unimproved, 52,613 acres forestland and 39,948 acres of waste land. Although small in area, it is the largest in population, on account of the City of Sherbrooke.

The county consists of two townships, Ascot and Orford. The large part of Ascot was granted to Thos. Scott in 1803 and a large portion also to W. B. Felton and his associates in 1816 to 1826. Much of Orford was granted to Luke Knowlton in 1801. Sherbrooke County of today is but a small part of the district which went by that name from 1829 to 1853, when it included 32 townships or the present counties of Richmond, Wolfe, Compton and Sherbrooke. From 1791 to 1829 even this large area was but a part of the wide spread county of Buckingham. Increase of population and the necessity of equalizing the vote was the occasion for the repeated divisions and reductions made.

Sherbrooke City outgrew all other villages and required less land area to form a balanced county.

Lennoxville, with 1700 people in 1926, is the centre of a dairying and stock raising section. It has been for years the seat of Bishop's College for higher education in the Province. The Government Experimental Farm is located here and it is the centre of three railroads and Government highways. It is also a splendid residential quarter. In 1800 it was known as the Upper Forks, because of the junction of the streams. The name Lennoxville was given to the tiny hamlet in honour of Gordon Lennox, fourth Duke of Richmond, and Governor General of Canada during 1818 and 1819. The Experimental Farm dates from 1912 and was under Macdonald College until it was taken over by the Government in 1916. The farm consists of 500 acres. Bishop's University was founded January 28th 1853, to prepare men for the ministry in the Anglican Church (founded by Bishop Mountain). Lucius Doolittle, a native of Vermont, was the prime mover in having the school located at Lennoxville. He was also the prime mover for its becoming a university for higher education with a faculty of divinity and a faculty of Art, suitable to lay students of any denomination. Rev. Jasper Hume Nicolls was the first principal from 1843 to 1877. A law faculty was in existence and a medical school carried on in Montreal up to 1905, when it was absorbed by McGill College. Today Bishop's College covers an estate of 200 acres and has suitable buildings for carrying on its great work. On a hill top across the river stands Bishop's College School for boys, financed by J. K. L. Ross, on the plan of the world renowned English school. It contains one of the finest modern school buildings in the Province, erected at a cost one and a half million dollars.

Sherbrooke City, formerly known as Hyat's Mills and in 1800 as the "Lower Forks" and which contained 100 years ago some 50 dwellings and when only two trails led into the U. S. and a path to Drummondville was widened to allow the passage of an ox-cart. In 1834 a road was cut to Waterville in order that a 5 days trip to Montreal might be accomplished, if conditions were favourable. Most of the land in Sherbrooke, as also the water power, was owned by the British American Land Co. There is no question but what they greatly helped in laying a secure foundation for Sherbrooke's growth, but did handicap after a certain period its continued growth through the shortsightedness of their agent in hanging on to industrial sites until too late. It was not until the '40s that Sherbrooke had a 1000 population. The C.N.R. (then G.T.R.) being built in 1852 gave a tremendous impetus to its growth. Lord Elgin visited the town on the occasion of the opening of the railway and Geo. F. Bowen, the first mayor, elected in 1852, gave the greeting. In 1868 the Paton Company established a plant here and Sherbrooke began its change from a rural village to an industrial town. In 1875 its charter was received as a city and in 1875 the population was 6,500 and the taxable real estate was

listed at \$1,400,000. In the meanwhile the Paton factory had been built, the Q.C.R. had been inaugurated and the International Railway extended from Sherbrooke east to Megantic. Around this period, there were five churches, two school houses, six hotels, thirty stores and a number of factories. The head office of the Eastern Townships Bank was located here, as also the seat of the District Court, and the Roman Catholic Bishopric. The city, while receiving its charter in 1875, only proved its right to the name after 1890. In 1912 the population grew to 18,000, real estate value had increased 62%, customs receipts 103% and there were now 4 railways coming into the city, 8 banking houses, 2 hospitals, 2 libraries and numerous public institutions. The city owned 4 water powers on the Magog River and one on the St. Francis River. There were 25 manufacturing plants. In 1927 Sherbrooke had a population of 25,000, taxable real estate \$24,853,800 and with non-taxable \$9,283,850., and many large manufacturing plants.

Stanstead County is, perhaps, the best known of any of the townships or counties, especially by the visiting American tourists. Many do not even know it by name, but are acquainted with our beautiful Lakes Memphramagog and Massawippi, and the charming resorts along their shores.. The highway passing from Island Pond, Vt., or from Colebrook, N.H., to Norton Mills and hence in Stanstead County, through the south-east section, or its west branch passing through Rock Island and on to Sherbrooke are both well known to the travelling public. In 1827, Stanstead was erected as a County containing an area of 294,417 acres, divided into 83,952 acres of improved land, 78,482 acres of unimproved land, 68,123 acres of forest land and 60,454 acres of waste land. You will note that the amount of unimproved land is small and what is classed as waste land is one of the most valuable possessions of the county, because it includes the areas taken up by the lakes, rivers and good roads, all of which draw thousands of visitors yearly, and who leave a great amount of money during their visit. The townships comprise Bolton, Potton, Stanstead, Hatley, Barnston and Barford. There are few parts of our country which present a greater variety of surface than Stanstead County. The land on the east shores of Lake Memphramagog and extending through Hatley on the west side of Lake Massawippi is hilly and broken. The most prominent elevations are the hills west of the narrows and Bunker Hill, near Fitch Bay. The greatest elevation in the east part of the county is Barnston Mountain.

The courses of the Barlow, (now Tomafobia) Negro, and Coaticook Rivers are marked by uneven banks and hilly ground. On Barlow and Coaticook Rivers are valuable meadows varying from 1/4 to 1/2 mile in width. The greater part of the hilly ground is adapted to cultivation or pasturage. There is but little waste land in the county. The soil, in its native state, was highly fertile and productive. The hills and higher ground were covered with a heavy growth of maple, beech, birch, white ash and leverwood, while the lower lands produced elm, basswood, cherry, butternut, poplar, hemlock, spruce, pine, cedar and tamarisk. The expense of clearing the ground varied from \$10.00 to \$15.00 an acre. Crops of Indian corn, wheat, barley, rye, oats, buckwheat, potatoes, turnip, peas, beans, and grass were sure and abundant. The potatoes were largely used for making whiskey. The territory around Lake Memphremagog was among the first to be surveyed, possibly because the presence of squatters of American origin and loyalty was known and feared.

Stanstead Township, the southern half was granted to Isaac Ogden, who proceeded vigorously with its development and who had energetic associates. The village of Stanstead was founded early and was considered superior to Sherbrooke in the early days.

The westerly half of Barnston Township was granted to Lester and Morrough in 1801.

Barford was a small township, the most of which was secured in 1802 by Isaac Clark. Col. Henry Cull, a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Militia, became proprietor of Hatley Township in 1803 and soon had families on the land.

In ten years Stanstead township had a population of more than 2,500 Barnston 500, Hatley 1000, while Barford had very few.

In 1810, in recognition of Sir R. S. Milnes' very important services during his reign as Lieutenant-Governor, His Majesty was pleased to see that he was granted 48,000 acres of good land, half of which was in Stanstead and the remainder in Barnston and Compton townships.

The slowness in having some parts of the county settled was due to speculation on the part of the proprietors, as also to absentee ownership. In 1827, when Stanstead County was erected, it became at once the premier county

of the Eastern Townships, ranking above all others in population and value of its agricultural products.

Among the 40 counties of Lower Canada, it ranked 23rd in area, 27th in population and 10th in agriculture. During this period, there were in the county 4 churches, 32 schools, 28 mills, of which one was a paper mill, 44 potash factories, (more than any other county) 4 distilleries, one brewery, 3 tanneries, 3 potteries, 1 hat factory (one of the very few in the Province), 3 villages with a total of 98 houses, and total population of 13,138. In 1901 the population stood 19,000, in 1911 20,765, in 1921 23,380 and in 1926 it was 24,260 and there were at this date some 2100 farmers. The three lakes of the county are the summer resort centres. Lake Memphremagog along its east shore for its extreme length is the summer home of many from the large centres as well as those from the United States.

The most important district in early times was Georgeville and it is still a centre in the lake section. In the early days it was known as Copp's Ferry, an important village on the road from Stanstead to Montreal, because it was the only place where one could cross the lake, and thus save a long journey around the North end. It was one of the three voting places in the county, when Stanstead was erected. Georgeville is still an interesting village but now off the main highway, or, I might say, through highway, as there is a good road leading from this place to Magog.

Lake Massawippi (lake of deep waters) one of the most beautiful bodies of water in the Province, is also a summer resort centre of the county, especially at the North and South end, as well as along the East shore. This lake was discovered by Ebenezer Hovey who first settled in the western part of Hatley in 1793. It is a spring fed lake with numerous brooks running into it, through deeply cut ravines and which add greatly to the charm of its scenic beauty. Elmwood Park at the South end and North Hatley at the North end, besides numerous cottages on the East side and a few on the West side speak of its popularity as a summer resort. In the pioneer days of Stanstead County the settlers formed a kind of brotherhood which began in the days of their hardships and were continued during the remainder of their lives. In their visits to each other, made with an ox team, often a distance of from 6 to 12 miles through the woods, they doubtless experienced a satisfaction much greater than is enjoyed in the ease and comfort that we have now in visiting our friends. As the forest began to disappear and circumstances of the people improve, they naturally sought to avail themselves and children with an education. As the result, libraries and schools were started. Some of the families of the early settlers had been favoured with an education and they willingly acted as teachers. Some had books which were circulated throughout the neighbourhood to be read and re-read. Reading in those days was conducted under difficulties but it was thorough and much appreciated. As early as 1800 schools were established at Stanstead, Hatley and Barnston. The wages of teachers were from \$4.00 to \$7.00 a month, and this paid mostly in grain and clothing. As the settlement increased, school houses were built and teachers who boarded around were employed at a better salary. As regards military service Sir John Johnson in 1802 was appointed Lieut.-Colonel of the 3rd Battalion of the Eastern Townships Militia. Three companies were organized in the county in 1803. A Company was formed in Hatley in 1807, and in Barnston in 1805. The first mail route opened in this part of the county was from Wells River to Derby Line in 1812. Previous to this the towns along the route had been supplied by a post rider who came to Derby Line twice a month and later to Stanstead, Barnston, Hatley and Compton. The only newspapers read in the county for many years were the Green Mountain Patriot and the North Star, then published at Peacham and Danville, Vt. From 1800 to 1817 there were no regular mails through the Eastern Townships. Whenever despatches were sent from the Government special couriers were employed. In 1817 a mail route was established from Barnston to Quebec, via Melbourne with a weekly mail which was carried on horse back. At this time, post offices were established at Stanstead, Hatley, Lower Forks (Sherbrooke) and Melbourne. In 1824 a weekly mail was started between Stanstead and Montreal via Copp's Ferry (Georgeville) and Magog outlet, where post offices were opened. Another weekly mail was subsequently started between Stanstead and Montreal, via St. Johns, and these two mail routes supplied communication with Montreal and Western Canada for many years. In 1833, semi-weekly mails were introduced and since that time a gradual increase in service has taken place.

In 1823 Silas H. Dickerson started a weekly paper "The British Colonist" at Stanstead Plain. It was the only one then printed in the Townships and it acquired a large circulation. In 1845 the Stanstead Journal was started at Rock Island by Le Roy Robinson, and is still being edited under the able management of John Holland. The Coaticook Observer started in 1870 under the guidance of Hunter Bradford, and is still being published under the guidance of

Arthur Bouchard.

The township of Stanstead in 1850 included the villages of Stanstead Plain, Beebe Plain, Rock Island, Georgeville, Fitch Bay, Glines Corners, Griffins Corners, Marlow and Ruiter's Corners, Magoon Point, Brown's Hill, Cassville, Boynton, Amy Corner, Newville and Casswellboro Settlement, all situated on the eastern shore of Lake Memphremagog. This lake, of which about two-thirds lies in Quebec Province, forms the western boundary of Stanstead County. The principal tributary streams are the Black, Barton, Clyde, Johns and Cherry Rivers, besides several large brooks. The Magog River is the only outlet to the lake, and which joins the St. Francis River at Sherbrooke. The extreme length of Memphremagog Lake from the North to the South is 33 miles, and breadth varies from one to three miles. Its water is shallow in many places but very deep in others and especially at the foot of Owles Head, where 100 fathoms is found. The Lady of the Lake steamer ran for many years in connection with the Boston & Maine Railway with Captain Bullock in charge. The stopping places were The Mountain House at Owles Head, Georgeville, Knowlton's Landing and Magog.

Fitch Bay leading out of the lake takes its name from Col. George Fitch, an Englishman who was among the early explorers of the Township. The bay has an average breadth of $3/4$ mile and extends 2 miles in length. Lovering Pond, about the same size as Fitch Bay, lies partly in Stanstead and partly in Magog Township, and is connected with the bay at Lee's Mill Brook.

Hubbard's Pond, or, as it is called "Crystal Lake" in the near vicinity of Stanstead Plain, is one mile in length and about a quarter mile wide.

Barlow River (Tomifobia River) takes its rise from a pond in Holland, and after a serpentine course of some 20 miles, empties into Massawippi Lake in Hatley township. Mill sites along its routes are at Rock Island, Mark's Mills, Smith's Mills and Libbies Mills. This river was of good size before the forests had been cleared and it was filled with fish. The Colby farm, then containing some 1000 acres, was situated on this river.

Negro River derives its name from a family of negroes by the name of Tatton who settled on its banks in Barnston township in 1804. It takes its rise in Holland, runs through Barnston and after a course of about 2 miles across the North East corner of Stanstead, empties into the Barlow River in Hatley. It contained several good mill sites in Barnston, Colby's Mills in Stanstead and at Burrough's Falls. The Lake Memphremagog Shore, south of Georgeville, furnished large quarries containing excellent limestone, and at Beebe Plain are extensive developments of a superior quality of granite. Forests in Stanstead Township, in fact over the whole county, presented in the earlier period a grand and luxuriant appearance.

There was no section in the Townships richer in building material of all kinds than Stanstead and certainly none were more reckless in their destruction. For many years potatoes were the principal crop, some farmers cultivating from 10 to 40 acres, and with an average yield of from 150 to 200 bushels to the acre. Most of these potatoes in that period were manufactured into whiskey, which brought from 40¢ to 50¢ a gallon. A bushel of potatoes yielding about one gallon of whiskey.

Stanstead County now occupies a prominent position as an agricultural district. It is well adapted to grazing and affords extensive hayfield and pasturage. Its wealth has been derived from its exports of cattle, pork, beef, horses, butter and cheese. The maple sugar making is also of great importance.

Stanstead Plain was first occupied by Johnson Taplin as a settler in 1756. He began his clearing where the Catholic Church now stands. In 1800 Mr. Taplin received a grant of his farm, a portion of which was divided into building lots and which comprises the central part of Stanstead Plain. He afterwards sold out his interests here, and settled in Fitch Bay. In 1797 the prominent men holding lots in Stanstead were Capt. Israel Wood, Jacob Goodwin, Reubin Banks, Phineas Hubbard, Selah Pomeroy, Hazen Pomeroy, James Bangs, Ichabod Smith and Wilder Pierce. The two latter men, Smith and Pierce, opened a store in the Plain in 1813. Large profits were then made in goods especially whiskey and rum, which were handled by all traders. In 1855 Stanstead Plain was set off by the Provincial Government.

Rock Island was started as a settlement in 1798 when Selah Pomeroy and Samuel Pomeroy came from Massachusetts. Selah cleared at first one acre in a dense forest of heavy dark timber, and built a log house. Other names mentioned in the early history of Rock Island are Daniel Lee 1800, Jedediah Lee 1804, Col. Chas. Kilburn 1804, Hon. Timothy Hinman and Andrew Young in 1809, Hon. P. Baxter

and Otis Warren in 1815, Alexander Kilburn in 1818, Carlos Pierce and Freeman Haskell 1823, and Stephen Foster in 1828.

The first settlement in Beebe Plain was made by David and Calvin Beebe in 1798, and it was set off as an independent municipality in 1872.

Brown's Hill was first settled by Theophilus and Sherborn Brown in 1800.

In 1799 Thos. Ayer settled in what was afterwards known as Ayer's Flat (Ayers Cliff).

Cassville settlement was begun in 1799 by the 9 partners named Cass from New Hampshire. When they returned with their families in 1800 the country was an unbroken wilderness. They had to cut a path for their teams, and were two days getting from Stanstead Plain to where the Cassville Church now stands. No blacksmith was nearer than Brownington, Vt. The only way they could get bread for their families was to carry the grain in bags over their shoulders, walk through the woods to Fitch Bay, 6 miles, then take a canoe up the lake (Memphremagog) to Duncansboro (now Newport) a distance of 20 miles, then shoulder their bags again for a 2 mile further walk to the mill.

Among the early settlers in Fitch Bay were Taplin Packard, Clefford and Shurtleff families. The locality was then known as Sucker City, from the abundance of suckers taken from the bay and brooks. A post office was established here in 1855, which was named after the first explorer of the bay, Col. George Fitch. For many years the settlement presented an area of dense forest of heavy dark timber, dotted here and there with small openings in which there would be a log house.

Ruiter's Corners in 1874 comprised 4 square miles and contained some 40 farm houses and named from Capt. John Ruiter.

Griffin's Corners also comprised some 50 farm houses and was about the same size in area. The public buildings in these early days comprised a church, school house, blacksmith shop and a tavern.

The name Georgeville was adopted for the village in 1822. The settlement had been previously known as Copp's Ferry as the first settlement had been made by Capt. Moses Copp in 1797. At this period Elijah Baird had made a beginning about one mile South and Jeremiah Lord about one mile North. With these exceptions the whole length of the lake shore on the East to Magog outlet, was an unbroken forest. In the early days of its settlement, its location made it a prominent place of business. It then commanded trade from the western part of Stanstead and Hatley and a large trade from the western shore of the lake. Among the men who amassed a fortune in doing business at Georgeville (Copp's Ferry) were Joshua Copp, Jas. C Peaslee and Chauncy Bullock.

Hatley derived its name from a village of the same name in England. The township was surveyed in 1792 and the subdivision into lots was made by Jas. Rankin in 1795. The township has an area of 51,000 acres.

Lake Massawippi lies near the centre and is some 9 miles in length with an average width of one mile. It has a crescent form and its water is usually pure and transparent. The shores and bottom are generally sandy or covered with gravel. In the early days of settlement in its vicinity, fish of different kinds were abundant such as shad, black salmon, maskinonge, pike, bass, mullet and sturgeon. These fish were caught in large quantities as they formed a considerable part of the food for the early pioneers in the surrounding community. The principal outlet of the lake is at North Hatley, and the inlet at Bacon's River (so called in 1874). This is formed by the junction of the Barlow (Tomifobia) and Negro Rivers, about 2 miles south of the lake.

The rivers and country around the lake had long been the hunting and fishing grounds of the St. Francis tribe of Indians and many relics have been found in the vicinity, such as tomahawks and stone arrow heads. The origin of the race who first travelled will probably ever remain a mystery. For many years after the settlement of the white people the Indians continued their visit to the lake and surrounding woods. Little Magog Lake, lying partly in Hatley Township, is about 4 miles in length and 1/2 mile in width. The Magog River passes through it, on its course North and to Sherbrooke.

Hatley Village, formerly Charleston, then East Hatley, was set off by the Provincial Government in 1818. The name Charleston was commemorative of Rev. Chas. Stewart, D.D., Bishop of Quebec. The first settlement within its limits was made by Thos. McConnell, Jr., about 1800. Other settlers were Levi and Jabez Hall. For many years this settlement presented the appearance of an opening in the forest of some 200 acres, with 2 small frame houses and 3 log cabins. In 1808 Robert Vincent built a small store and commenced business in connection with Levi Biglow of Derby, Vt. Other families came soon after. Among these were Ebenezer Bacon and Dr. John Weston. During the American War of 1812 Hatley was a village of some importance, especially in salts of lye and pot and pearl ashes. In 1874 the village contained 2 churches, one tavern, 2 stores and post office, a blacksmith shop, a tin shop and some 30 dwelling houses.

Massawippi (formerly West Hatley) - About 1800 Stephen Boroughs settled at the place now known as Borough's Falls in Stanstead Township and a road was cut soon after from that place to and running through Hatley and which a few years after, was the beginning of West Hatley (Massawippi Village). Simon Cole had previously made a small clearing and Appleton Plumley had built a saw mill. A grist mill was built soon after by Daniel Bacon, and Stephen Burbank, one of the early settlers, built a distillery. It is said that through the influence of whiskey in those early days, many of the settlers sank to the most abject poverty and were compelled to sell out and leave the country. The mill privileges below the village were bought by Samuel P. Harvey of Compton, who built mills, and in 1842 purchased the mills of the Burbank estate. Simon Kezar at this time was a trader in the village. In 1842 a clothier's shop, a blacksmith shop and a shoemaker shop were started and a general store opened by Knight and Demick. In 1843 a tannery and 4 new dwellingshouses were built.

In 1874 West Hatley contained a church, a tavern, 2 stores, 1 tannery, a grist mill, a saw mill, a post office, 2 cabinet and wheelwright shops, 2 blacksmith shops, a grocery store, harness shop, a boot and shoe shop and some 40 dwellings, and had a population of 175.

North Hatley in 1874 could scarcely be called a village. A store had been built and a post office established. The Massawippi Valley Railway, being built from Sherbrooke to Newport, Vt., helped the growth of the small hamlet and its beauty as a summer resort put North Hatley where it is today. In 1874 branches of the Le Baron and Wadleigh families and Col. Henry Cull and family were among the earliest settlers of the neighbourhood.

Magog in Magog Township, was set off in 1847 by the Provincial Government and organized into a municipality in 1855. Ralph Merry settled at the outlet around 1800. In 1874 Magog was a flourishing village. The river running through it, had a good water power and mills and woollen factories had early been built and in process of time, Magog had become a place of importance, particularly in the lumber trade and woollen and iron manufacturing. At this time the village still continued to grow and had among its people enterprising and wealthy men.

The Mountain Maid, a small steamer, made daily trips from Magog to Newport, Vt. The Lady of the Lake, a splendid boat built in 1867, now plies between these places (1874). The present village of Magog (1874) comprises 100 houses, 2 churches, 1 academy, 5 stores, 2 hotels, 2 saw mills, 1 grist mill, a door sash and window plant, a rake and smath factory. 2 cabinet shops, washing machine and churn shop, a carriage and sleigh plant, 2 blacksmith shops, 1 wool carding and cloth dressing shop, 3 boothand shoe shops, 1 tailor, jeweler and milliners shop. It was during this period that wealthy families from the cities bought land on the lake shore, and established summer residences.

Barnston Township derived its name from a place of the same name in England, and has an area of 64,000 acres. Its boundaries were determined by Royal Warrant in 1792. The survey dividing the township into lots was made in 1796 under the supervision of Jesse Penoyer of Compton. In the disposal of these lots, as in other townships, 1/7 was selected from different portions for the benefit of the Protestant clergy and 1/7 part as the property of the Crown. These were not to be sold but leased for a term of 20 years.

With the exception of Barnston Mountain and the lands in their immediate vicinity and along the banks of the Coaticook and Negro Rivers, the surface of the township presents an indulating appearance. With the exception of Compton and Stanstead, this township is not equalled by another in the country in the richness of soil, and the quantity of land adapted for cultivation. There is indeed little waste land, as the most broken parts

of its surface furnish good pasturing and sugar bushes.

Granite is abundant in the vicinity of Baronston Mountain, and limestone is found in other parts of the township. The first opening of the forest in Barnston was made by Capt. Jos. Bartlett in 1796, who came from Danville, Vt. and he walked the whole distance from there. His nearest neighbours were Mr. Taplin at Stanstead Plain and Capt. Ebenezer Hovey at West Hatley. After felling 3 acres of trees and putting up a log chanty, covered with bark and without a floor, he returned to Vermont for his family. Levi Baldwin, a native of Connecticut, was the second pioneer to settle in Barnston. He made a beginning in 1798 and moved his family to their new home in 1799. Both of these families endured many hardships and privations, both in reaching their homes and after arrival.

The earliest settlers in Barnston Corner were the Buckland, Converse, Cleaveland, Davis, Norton, Cutting, White and Bellows families. In the early days there were no regular roads through the township. In 1804 a path had been cut through the woods from Stanstead Plain to the Aldrich, Clement, Mosher, Heath and Locke settlement, known in 1874 as Mosher Corner. Soon after this, the path was extended to the Bartlett, Baldwin, Hill, Child and Bickford neighbourhood. From this path, another was cut and the place known as the Davis farm formerly belonging to a Bartholomeu was reached. The two roads running North and South across the township were laid out by the Grand Voyer in 1810, and the two running East and West were laid out soon after this date. The crossing of these two roads form the site of the present village of Barnston Corner. Previous to 1825 the settlement comprised some 15 to 20 dwelling houses scattered over an area of 4 square miles of forest with small openings here and there. As the population increased, Barnston Corner became the centre of trade for the greater part of the township as also the newssettlement in Barnford and the South part of Compton. The Humphrey and Damon families came to Barnston about this period (1825).

The location of the Grand Trunk Railway through Coaticook in 1852 had the effect of diverting much of the business of Barnston to Coaticook Village. John Mansur, the first Post Master in Barnston, was appointed in 1832.

Among the families of the later settlers were Cushing, Cleveland, Jenks, White, Remick, etc. Among the successful merchants were Judd, Cook, Adams, Thornton, Humphrey and Shorey. The village in 1874 comprised 50 dwellings, 2 churches, a tavern, academy, 2 stores, post office, telegraph office, cabinet and wheelwright shop, blacksmith shop and a boot and shoe shop.

The Mosher Corner settlement (South Barnston), 6 miles North East from Stanstead, was begun by ten families in 1804. The first postmaster here was Francis Cooper in 1867.

King's Corner (Kingscroft) in the North West part of Barnston Township between Hatley and Stanstead, was named for Ira King, one of the early settlers who opened a tavern there in 1810. Another tavern and store were afterwards built. For a time Hiram Davis and branches of the King families were engaged in trade here. The neighbourhood in 1874 contained some 12 well to do families.

Wayville (Way Mills) derived its importance from manufacturing. The Way and Hollister families were among the early settlers and the village in 1874 contained a store, grist mill and a carding, spinning and weaving plant. The post office was established with E. E. Southmayd as Postmaster.

Coaticook for many years formed a part of the wild lands of Barnston. Richard Baldwin walked from his home at Barnston Pinnacle to Coaticook, spotting the trees on the way, there being no road, simply a wilderness. In 1818 he made a clearing and built a log house near the brook at the junction of what is now Child and Wellington Sts. After some 10 years, he acquired through the taking up of Government land, and buying from Edmond Davis of Barnston some 1000 acres of land. In 1828 he sold out to his son, Richard Baldwin Jr., and returned to his old home Barnston Pinnacle. This son, at the age of 22 years, made a trip with a team of French ponies through the woods to Bangor, Maine, where he obtained a lumber job. The following spring he sold his team and returned home on foot bringing with him \$400.00. This money he put into a house in 1830, which was the first frame house built in Coaticook, and was built where the Town Building now stands. The shingles covering the house he made by hand, and enough extra so that by drawing them to Stanstead Plain, he obtained sufficient brick to build the chimney, which extended from the collar to the top of the house.

In those early days, the only market of any account was Montreal, which had to be made by team, through Farnham and St. Johns. The principal business was making salts of potash, and trapping during the winter months. The streams in the early days were filled with salmon and trout, which proved a blessing to the early pioneers. The Coaticook River and the brook which has always run through the town, were filled with fish, and a meal of them for a large family could be procured in a short time.

In 1847 there were only two roads in the Coaticook settlement, the one running East and West from Barnston down what is now the Main Street, and across the Coaticook River over an old log bridge (now a modern steel bridge) and on to Barford; the other road branching off from Main Street, down what is now Child Street, and on to Compton. In 1847 it was not even a village but simply a farming community. In giving the location of the first buildings erected in Coaticook, I will use the name of our streets, which have been familiar to Coaticook citizens for many years. All land east of the log bridge across the Coaticook (now cement bridge) on Main St. to the Barford line on both sides, was a swamp. The old cutting house on the North East corner of the Barford line was then a red school house, and where the oldest inhabitants of the surrounding township or clearings attended school, and where all religious services were held. The next was a little red house on the bank of Coaticook River just east of the log bridge and on the South side of the road (Main Street). The A. K. Fox house on the opposite corner (Barford Line) of the little red school house, had just been built, and included all of the houses east of the river. In 1854 Jad Shurtleff, grandfather of W. L. Shurtleff, K.C., built his little home on the West side of River on Main Street, and on the East corner of Main and Wellington Sts. stood the house of A. Lewis. Horace Cutting at this period had a hotel, afterwards known as the Coaticook House (owned by Stephen Davis). Mr. Cutting also owned a small store on Pleasant Street, where the old Eastern Townships Bank building now stands. Later he moved this building to where the Anglican Church is now located (corner of Cutting Streets). This was destroyed by fire so he again built just East on Pleasant Street where the Guild Hall now stands, and he became here the first Postmaster, in connection with running a general store. About 1840 Mr. Baldwin Jr. induced Marcus Child to build a store on the site where W. C. Webster was located for many years (corner Main & Child Streets). Mr. A. K. Fox, then a young man, came here in the spring of 1845 as manager of this store, and moved when married into his new house spoken of. Besides giving Marcus Child the land for his store, with 12 feet surrounding it, Mr. Baldwin also gave him land on Child Street where the Thondike Hotel now stands as an inducement to put up a building for the manufacture of potash which he did, and ran for several years. This plant was a great advantage to the poor and struggling inhabitants of the surrounding country. He also gave him a deed of a piece of land on the brook where now stands the mill of the late Harry Clark, as an inducement for him to build a carding mill. This was done and the mill operated for several years.

John Kennedy, who settled here in 1845 was the first blacksmith and the only one for many years. Levi Baldwin, brother to Richard, built and operated a grist mill on the West side of the river near the upper wooden dam and cement bridge leading to St. Paul Street. Samuel Cleveland owned and operated a distillery near Baldwin's grist mill. The home of Dr. Benjamin Damon on Pleasant Street, John Kennedy's house and shop on Main Street, Levi Baldwin's home on the corner of St. Paul and Water Street, and the house of Mrs. Pollard on St. Jean Baptiste Street were all of the homes in Coaticook prior to 1848. Coaticook today stands on what was the farm of Richard Baldwin, which extended for one mile North South East and West.

The small village did not begin to grow or thrive until the Grand Trunk Railway was put through in 1852. History tells us that it was through the influence of Richard Baldwin that this railway was built up the Coaticook Valley instead of the Massawippi Valley to Stanstead and then on to Island Pond, as both routes had been surveyed. Richard Baldwin remodelled his red farm house built in 1830 into a hotel, calling it the Railway Hotel and operated same during the building of the railroad. He also contracted to build a section of it and during the time operated a store at Drew's Mills (Dixville) having as a clerk Dudley Davis. He also furnished meat to the railroad men and people of the village. James Norris of Drew's Mills and David Biglow of Derby, Vt., were his butchers. It took from six to seven head of cattle each day, besides a lot of pork and mutton to supply the demand. He looked after all of these interests besides managing his 1000 acre farm. For 15 years after the railroad was put through he ran the sole market in the village, besides buying hay and grain for shipment to Nova Scotia. He also contracted to supply the railway with wood from Island Pond to Sherbrooke and held this contract until his death in 1877. Hunter

and Bell of Stanstead ran a store on the brow of the hill on the South side of Compton Street, overlooking our present cement dam. This was during the building of the railroad. In 1853 A. A. Adams and John Thornton came to Coaticook from Barnston Corner and went into business. That same year Mr. Adams built his home which stood for so many years on our Main Street, fronting the Coaticook House.

In this same year, Mr. Baldwin had Wellington Street laid out and a Mrs. Tabor of Pittsburg, N.H. built a residence, now occupied and owned by Miss Sarah Draper. A school house was also built, now owned by N. Gregoire and Mr. Charles Merrill, who came from Canaan, Vt., was the first teacher. At this period the village was growing quite fast. Capt. Thompson in the customs had built his home on Union Street, later owned and occupied for many years by Charles Lovell, M.P. Charles Merrill and others had their homes on Pleasant Street, which had been opened up and was the fourth street in the village.

The Methodist Church, a wooden building, was erected in 1855 on the land given by Richard Baldwin. Benjamin Cole was the first settled pastor in 1860. In 1856 the Baptist Church was built at a cost of \$2,300.00 and the Rev. Thos. P. Moulton was installed as pastor. The Anglican Church was built in 1863 and Rev. John Foster was the first rector and continued as such until he retired many years later. In connection with this Church, on Mark Street there was built a brick school that functioned for many years. The Roman Catholic Church, a wooden building, was erected and dedicated in 1864. It was at this period that Coaticook was set off as a separate municipality from Barnston. Charles Merrill drew the plan of Coaticook, laid out all the streets and had the honour of naming them. At this period Henry Lovell came from Barnston and entered business with Richard Baldwin handling produce of all kinds.

During the Civil War (1861-1865) there was a great influx of Americans to all villages along the border and while the war continued, the farmers were prosperous. After the war, however, prices fell and everything came to a standstill. It was not until 1870 that things began to brighten up in Coaticook. In 1871 Cleveland and Doak began to boom North Coaticook. The Tolley Manufacturing Company started up and bid fair to be of importance to the village. Much building was done but there was a set back as this plant did not prove a good business venture. About this time, a woollen mill, as also a knitting mill, was started. They were successful and the whole village benefited. In 1877 a financial depression came on, that affected the whole country and Coaticook received another set back. It was not until the early '80's that the village began to pick up. At this period, through the interest of Samuel Cleveland, a cotton factory was established on the water power at North Coaticook and once more the village began to boom. The early pioneers of Coaticook that deserve mention are Baldwins, Cuttings, Larks, Eatons, Bradleys and Pratts. Later came the families of Child, Fox, Thornton, Lovell, Cleveland, Damon, Davis, Webster and many others who gave their talents to making or laying the foundation of Coaticook to its present proportions.

Barford Township has an area of 38,400 acres. Compton and Clifton bound it on the North, Hereford on the East, Vermont on the South and Barnston on the West. The survey of this township was made in 1792, and the subdivision into lots in 1801. The surface is diversified. The Coaticook River runs through it from North to South. The meadow land along this river is small but valuable. The remaining part of the township is hilly and in some instances broken and uneven. The soil is rich and productive and with but little waste land. The farms in this township are second to none in the county as to cultivation and pasturage. Drow's Mills (Dixville) is a small village on the Coaticook River, and has a water power. In 1874 it contained a grist mill, a saw mill, carding mill, clothiers shop, post office and store. A small French settlement is located at St. Heremenegilde in the East part of the township. A large share of the wild land in the township was parcelled out in 1810 to Government officials and other individuals. A grant of 2,500 acres was made at this time to a Mrs. Hannah Vaucamp. She commenced operations on a large scale and after spending some \$5,000 in clearing land and making roads, she relinquished the enterprise and returned to Quebec, where she died soon after. This property was afterwards purchased by Dr. Ward at a price much below its real value. He made many improvements on the land. Many years passed after this township was surveyed before any settlement worthy of note was made. It was not until after Stanstead, Hatley and Barnston Townships were or had their best land taken up, that attention was called to the forests of Barford. In many cases, the settlement was made by the children of the pioneers of Barnston. Among these

were the descendents of Child, Baldwin, Parker, Cleveland and Drew families. Leonard Martin and his family came in from Peacham, Vt. in 1823. Harba and Marcus Child, grandsons of Harba Child of Barnston were the most prominent public men of Barford. One of the descendents of the Drew families built the mills that still retain the name Drews Mills (1874). His mill property was purchased by Richard Baldwin of Coaticook in this year.

Beginning from Coaticook, the farmers located on the Barford road leading to Drews Mills, who came to Coaticook to do their trading, were as follows, and given in order from the Coaticook and Barford corner: Jonathan Ham (formerly known as the C.E. Baldwin farm), Ezra Baldwin, Parkis, William Glover (formerly known as the Mullins farm), Gardiner Blandin, Ira Baldwin, Rev. Jos. Chandler, George Baldwin, Capt. Martin and Mrs. Piper.

At Drews Mills, were James and Ezra Drew, Chas. Straw, and nearby the Wright and Parker families. On the road leading from Coaticook to Barnston were the families (in order) of Eli Bradley, Pratt, Major Eaton, James Lark, Jonathan Cutting, Samuel Davis and Edmond Davis. On the road leading from Coaticook to Compton were the families of Stevens, Jos. Baker, Chas. Evans, (with several sons who settled near him), Rugg, Parson Smith, A. C. Parker, Spaldwin, Norman Stevens and John Ford.

The village of Coaticook in 1874 contained an Episcopal Church, a Wesleyan Methodist Church, a Free Will Baptist Church and a Roman Catholic Church, an academy building with a town hall in connection, also a school house in connection with the Episcopal Church, a district school house, 7 stores, 1 Apothecary's shop, 3 hotels, 3 blacksmith shops, 1 harness shop, saw mill, grist mill, 1 furniture shop, 1 machine shop, grist mill, tannery, door and sash factory, a churn and washing machine factory, a hand loom factory, a mowing machine and rake factory, an iron foundry, match factory, a post office and telegraph office. There were at this period 150 dwelling houses, new streets were being opened up and the village was rapidly increasing.

It might be of interest if I gave the rise and progress of the different Religious Societies on Stanstead County.

English or Episcopal Church:

Starting with Stanstead Plain, a missionary, the Rev. Richard Knagg, was sent here in 1819, but he retired in 1821 without accomplishing much as to the growth. No attempt was made further until 1845 when the settlement at the Plain was occasionally visited by the Rev. Doolittle of Lennoxville, Rev. Reid of Compton and Rev. Jackson of Hatley. In 1849, the Rev. H. G. Burrage began holding services in the upper room of the brick store of Francis Judd. In 1851, a church was organized. In 1852 his report to the Bishop at Quebec gave an average attendance from 50 to 60 and the number of communicants from 15 to 18. In 1857 the Rev. W. L. Thompson took Mr. Burrage's place. It was during his incumbency that the present church (1874) was erected. Following him came the Rev. H. F. Darnell, Rev. A. A. Allen, Rev. J. Early, Rev. A. J. Woolryche (1872) and the Rev. George Thorneloe (1874).

At Hatley the Rev. Dr. Stewart was the pioneer clergyman and missionary in 1817. The process of growth was slow because Hatley settlers were mostly from Vermont and New Hampshire and unacquainted with the Episcopal form of worship. In 1818 a large and commodious church was built on a hill a mile and a half from the settlement and most of the expense in building was born by the Rev. Stewart. Later a new church was built in the village and the former church was used by the Adventists. Rev. Stewart left a record, as being a tireless worker and all cherished his memory with reverence and affection. He was succeeded by the Rev. Thos. Johnson who in 1830 was followed by the Rev. C. Jackson, the Rev. H. G. Burrage, formerly of Stanstead (1848) and the Rev. A. J. Balfour in 1872.

At Coaticook the Rev. John Foster (later Canon Foster) was appointed by Bishop Mountain of Quebec and began his duties in 1852 covering not only Coaticook and North Coaticook, but also Barnston and Barford. In 1863 a church was built in Coaticook and consecrated under the name of St. Stephens. In this year he married Miss L. E. Cutting, daughter of one of Coaticook's pioneer businessmen. In 1865, through Mr. Foster, a Church day school was established near the church, and the first teacher was Miss Eliza Currie, B.A., of McGill University. This school functioned until 1878, when it was turned into a house for the then sexton. In 1871 Mr. Foster resigned to take up church work in Three Rivers and the Rev. T. Richardson took his place and was succeeded by the Rev. J. H. Corvan in 1873.

In 1874 Mr. Foster returned to Coaticook and continued in the church until his retirement after 36 years in the cause. This was in 1901. During those fruitful years, he had brought the church up to a high standard and to prosperity. On December 9th, 1906 Canon Foster passed away at the age of 70 years. St. Stephen's Church was enlarged a few years later (from 1863). On January 10th, 1901, a new church hall was dedicated, located on Pleasant Street, on the site of the former Horace Cutting Store. Rev. Canon Foster was succeeded by the Rev. Albert Stevens, M.A., who for 20 years had been Incumbent of Hatley.

On November 29th, 1908, the first service was held in the new church built on the corner of Pleasant and Cutting Streets, next to the Guild Hall, at a cost of \$10,000. In 1912 the Ladies Guild built an extension on the hall, which furnished a commodious kitchen and one of the best equipped in the diocese. Rev. Albert Stevens passed away November 12th, 1914, and was succeeded by his son the Rev. Cecil Stevens, M.A., who resigned in April 1927, to become rector of Grand Mere, Que. Rev. A. E. E. Legge, M.A., B.Paed., succeeded him on June 7th, 1927 and is still rector.

Christ Church at North Coaticook was built in 1874. From the beginning the rector at Coaticook had charge. Barford later became self-supporting and had their own church and rector.

The church at Barnston had been closed for some period and was sold in 1927.

The Methodist Church:

Stanstead Plain received its first minister in 1807 in the person of Rev. Lewis Walker. From this date to 1820 some 12 ministers officiated in and around Stanstead. At this period, 1820, the Stanstead circuit was set off to the British Conference (it was formerly of the New England Conference).

In 1829 the Wesleyan Brick Church was erected at Stanstead Plain. In 1866 another larger church of larger dimensions was put up to take the place of the smaller one. From 1820 to 1875 some 21 ministers laboured for the cause in the Stanstead circuit, and among them, men of splendid talents. A church in Georgeville was erected in 1838 under the incumbency of the Rev. Edwin Peake. From this date to 1874, Georgeville had 6 ministers. The first Methodist meeting at Barnston Corner was held in the log cabin of Josiah Boroughs in 1803, the Rev. J. R. Crawford officiating. Subsequently the Rev. David Kilborn of New Hampshire and Vermont, had occasionally visited this section, and held meetings. The church in Barnston was built in 1820, and from this date to 1874, some 20 good men supplied the needs of Methodists here.

Hatley, during its early settlement had but few Methodist families. In 1821 this settlement was supplied by missionaries sent from England, who extended their work to the different parts of the surrounding community. This was after the transfer of the St. Francis District or Circuit in 1821 from the New England to the British Conference. In 1838 Hatley and Compton were set off as separate circuits and were supplied successively by 8 ministers up to 1863, when Hatley became a separate circuit, and from that date up to 1875, was supplied by 5 different men.

Coaticook Methodist Church history I have not been able to obtain at the present writing but will add this later. The same applies to the Baptist Church.

The Baptist Church:

The first church organization within the limits of Stanstead County was of October 1799. Some 13 people united in forming a church in the western part of the county, and held their meetings in the dwelling houses of the early settlers along Memphremagog Lake shore from Copp's Ferry (Georgeville) to the outlet at Magog. In 1817 they numbered 75. Elder Harvey Clark was the preacher and continued as such for 20 years. From 1833 to 1837 Elders E. Mitchell and J. Baldwin supplied. In 1837 Elder Mitchell located near Georgeville and sustained the pastorate of the church for many years.

At Barnston the few families were supplied by ministers from the New England States. In 1812 Elder R. Smith settled in the North part of the township and preached for 5 years. A church was organized about that time, but after a few years was disbanded. In 1833 a new church was formed and in 1834 Brother Baldwin was ordained and remained pastor for 4 years. For many

years the meetings of the church were held in the dwelling houses and school houses of the settlements. A few years prior to 1874 a small church was built at Barnston Corner .

The Baptists of Barford Township became organized in 1837 and Elder I. Ide was ordained as pastor in 1838. He was succeeded by Elder Jos. Chandler in 1847.

Free Will Baptists:

In 1803 a church of 20 members was formed in the Stanstead settlement. In 1806 Elder A. Moulton was ordained and a log meeting house was built 25 by 30 feet at an expense of \$75.00. During 1811 and 1812 the church enjoyed a revival. Up to 1823 they were connected with the Wheelock, Vt. Baptists and up to 1848 the members continually increased.

In Hatley the Baptists organized in 1802 and, like Stanstead, were connected with those of Wheelock but this connection was dissolved in 1823.

At Barnston they commenced in a small way in 1832. In 1854 Barnston and Barford took the name of the Coaticook Church. In 1856 a church was built in Coaticook with Elder P. Moulton as first pastor.

Roman Catholic Church:

The origin of the Catholic Church in Stanstead County is of recent date. Many years elapsed before their numbers became sufficient for the organization of churches. The early meetings were held in the dwelling houses of Catholic families. In the Bishop purchased 2 acres of land at Stanstead Plain, on which a church was subsequently built. The title given to the mission was "The Sacred Heart of Jesus of Stanstead" and in 1848 the Rev. J. B. Champeaux was sent as the resident clergyman. As this church was found to be too small as the numbers increased, and was also not central enough, a new church was built in 1850 and stood upon the site of the first frame house built in Stanstead and contains some of the original timbers of that building.

During the past quarter of a century from 1850 the increase of Roman Catholics has been very large. In 1840 the church numbered 75 but in 1874 it numbered 1000.

In 1863 a tract of 6 acres was purchased on the East bank of the Coaticook River and a wooden church was erected and which stood for many years. The number of communicants in 1863 was 120 and in 1871 some 500.

In Barford the first missionary was the Rev. James Daly, whose services extended from 1856 to 1858. In 1874 the mission was under the charge of the Rev. Mr. Chartier. The number of communicants in 1862 was about 50 and in 1871 some 300.

In Magog the Catholics purchased about one acre of land in 1860 at the North West part of the village upon which they built a chapel 36 by 50 feet at a cost of \$1,000. It was dedicated in 1861 by Bishop Jas. Laroque. There were 26 members at that time, and there was a large increase as years went by.

Education:

Stanstead Seminary was completed in 1829 at a cost of \$2,500. In 1830 a grant of \$800.00 was made by the Provincial Government. This allowance was afterwards reduced to \$400.00 per annum. For many years this Seminary and the academy at East Hatley were the only clerical schools in the Townships. The directors of the Seminary in 1865 were Ichabod Smith, Wilder Pierce, C. C. Colby, B.F. Hubbard, Geo. Pomeroy and J. P. Lee.

The Hatley Academy (formerly Charleston) was founded in the same year, and like Stanstead, was given grants from the Government.

The Stanstead Seminary was erected at a cost of \$3,000.

The Magog Academy was founded in 1856 through the efforts of seven of the leading men in the village. This also was a two-storey building and received an annual grant from the Government. Barnston Academy was completed in 1851 under the supervision of the Rev. James Green and Dr. N. Jenks at a cost of \$1200.00, half of which was paid by the Government. The building

is a two-storey one and for many years held a high reputation and was well attended by the boys and girls from the surrounding country.

The Coaticook Academy was erected in 1852, in connection with the town hall. A large building was erected in 1864 and this was doubled in size by a wing in 1881. At that time there were 5 rooms, with a principal and 4 assistant teachers. For a great many years, under the guidance of G. K. Masten, the principal, this academy was noted throughout the Province as being of a very high order. There was a large attendance of students coming from various parts of the Province.

The Georgeville High School was established in 1854. It received for a time a grant from the Provincial Government of \$200.00 per annum. Among the trustees were four of the leading men of the village.

In 1865, the directors of the Stanstead Seminary proposed to raise the sum of 20,000 for the erection of buildings suitable to furnish facilities for a collegiate education.

In 1871 the Stanstead Wesleyan College Association was organized. In 1872 the contract for the building was awarded to G. W. Bryant of Sherbrooke after \$25,000. had been secured. On December 24th, 1872, the College was incorporated by Act of the Provincial Government. Rev. W. Hansford was appointed the head of the College in 1873 and re-appointed in 1874. This college has always held a high reputation in the Province and 1933 still finds it in a prosperous condition.

Wolfe County lies North of Compton, East of Richmond, West of Frontenac and South of Megantic. It has an area of 405,588 acres, of which 125,277 acres are improved, 86,230 acres unimproved, 167,230 acres of forest land and 26,172 acres of waste land. The population in 1926 was 16,588, of which 2,156 were listed as farmers. The inhabitants are mainly of French descent. The country is rolling, the most notable height being Bald Mountain in the South (so named because its top is bare of forest growth). The fertility of soil averages well. A main highway and railway traverse the county diagonally. The most notable scenic feature of the county is its lakes. Lake Nicolet is the source of one of the branches of the Nicolet River. Lake Weedon in the South section is closely connected with the long twisted Lake Aylmer, which occupies so much of the East central part of the county. The land about the lakes is rather low and is available mainly for pasturage.

Since the most populous part of the county lies around these lakes, the principal agricultural occupation is dairying and much milk is shipped. Cattle and sheep are raised to a large extent, and sent to the Quebec market. Grain and roots are grown for home consumption. Lumbering ranks next to agriculture and in cash returns exceeds the farming. The cutting of wood pulp, however, had replaced the large saw mills of former days.

The county comprises the townships of Wolfestown, Garthby, Ham, Stratford, Weedon, Wotton, and Dudswell.

Wolfestown was granted to Nicholas Montour in 1802.

Dudswell had about one-quarter of its area ceded to John Bishop and others in 1803. The principal grant of its area was to officers from 1804 to 1852, and most of the remainder was sold in 1827.

Ham was only partially surveyed by 1812 and only small grants made at this time, the larger sections going in 1824.

Garthby and Wotton were not sold until 1830 and later Weedon had only a small section granted by 1823.

Wolfe County happened to lie outside of the St. Francois Valley, distant from centres of population, which no doubt accounts for no effort being made for settlement until 1830. Up to this date there were only 100 people on its 400,000 acres. The British American Land Co. secured much of the land but did little to develop it. When some 20 years later the Crown and Clergy Reserves were expropriated, the French Canadians began to enter. In 1871 the inhabitants had reached over 8000 but this was due to the spread of lumbering operations rather than the desire to locate permanently. The course of the County's progress during the last half century has been the gradual utilization of the land cleared of timber, which led to the creation of stock farms and dairies. The early saw mills and their operations, then the clearing of land for dairying, led to the rise of many rural centres,

either about the mill, or around the cheese and butter factories of more recent date.

Weedon Centre had two large saw mills, as far back as 1850 and is now one of the larger centres having in 1926 a population of 800. The same is true of Wottonville, with 450, Beaulac 416, and Bishop's Crossing with 287. In 1875 Bishop's Crossing was three times as populous as the others, with 4 churches, many stores and industries. Marbleton with a population of 743, was just half as large 50 years ago, and in the throes of a mining craze. Limestone and marble were plentiful in the neighbourhood and an ochre mine and a gold mine were being worked in the vicinity. The gold mining never paid. Disraeli is the principal town of the county but is modern in growth as compared with the other settlements. Here again the forest resource gave it life and continues to do so. Two large saw mills, 2 planing mills, a door and sash factory are the chief industrial plants. The town is on the St. Francis River, a station on the Quebec Central Railway and in 1926 had a population of 1600.

The early pioneers coming to the Townships, a great many of whom were from the New England States, found a wilderness of forests. When they decided upon a location for a home, great trees had to be cut down in order to make an opening for their small and crude log cabin. These openings were widely scattered in many sections and only trails led from one to another and in many cases not even this to guide them. They experienced terrible hardships and privations and many at times were on the verge of starvation. When we look over our Eastern Townships, beautiful as they are today, the stern fact is brought home to us of the determination, will and strength of these pioneers, which are not found in our country today. I am wondering how many of your young people of this period could survive under such tremendous difficulties. History tells us that some of these pioneers attained the age of from 90 to 100 years. These men found the important link between the past and present, having lived during one of the great epochs of the world history, because they could well remember the French War, the American Revolution, and the War of 1812 and 1815. They had seen the United States grow from a few British Colonies to a mighty nation, and some of them expressed the wish that they could drink the "Rip Van Winkle's Flagon" and wake up to participate in the great advantages in 100 years hence.

Little has been said of these pioneer women, who deserve all honour and credit for their self-sacrificing and untiring industry, for their cheer which made these crude homes comfortable and happy. They were the ones to mould the character that has distinguished many of their posterity.

In closing this history of our Eastern Townships I want to cite one case (and this is one of many recorded) of the hardships the early pioneers had to endure. In the winter of 1795 Joseph Fish with his wife, their eldest son and a babe of 8 months old left their home in Reading, Vt., with an ox team loaded with their household goods and a limited supply of provisions, found their way through the woods, to Durham, Que. After remaining a short time at that place, they sent back their team and set out on foot to seek a home on the eastern shore of Lake Memphremagog. The mother carried her babe all of the way in her arms and the father was loaded with a pack of no small dimensions. After crossing the lake and staying a day or two at the log cabin of Capt. Hovey, they directed their course to a place on Negro River and for many years afterwards known as Shanty Hill. They were poor and their hardships and privations were for many years very severe. Some time elapsed before they were able to clear land sufficient to raise their bread, and a still longer time before they could get their grain ground into meal. During the first seven years of this experience there was not a grist mill within 20 miles of their clearing. From 1795 until 1802 they pounded their grain in a large mortar made from a heavy block of maple. For variety they sometimes boiled and ate their wheat and Indian corn whole. The supply of fish from the lake and the river was abundant and contributed materially to their support. From 1802, their difficulties began to lessen. The wooden mortar was thrown aside and they enjoyed the luxury of loaves of bread baked from a well ground flour. The shanty in the meanwhile had been superseded by a substantial log house of limited dimensions but which furnished them with a comfortable home. In the meantime their family increased, and by industry and strict economy, their means increased. After residing some years in this locality, they removed to lot 9, first range in Hatley, which lot Mr. Fish had drawn as an Associate. Here they passed their last days in comfort and what was termed then, in prosperity. They lived to see their children and grandchildren well settled in life with hardly an exception, sustaining respectable and useful positions in the community. All of their families were exemplary members of the different Christian churches.

I have been able to write this history of our Eastern Townships through the records of "The Storied Province of Quebec" (5 volumes), and also through Forests and Clearings, compiled by B. F. Hubbard in 1874.

I sincerely trust it will be as interesting to whomever may read it as it was to me in looking up these important events.