

fect of lumber passed through the canal during the last year. The population in the year 1840 was 3342, in 1850, 10,248, and the last census taken this year gives nearly 15,000. The annual value of assessed property is about £70,000! Such are the wonderful results of a system of colonization unexampled in the history of the world.

The site of Hamilton is very good, but it has the disadvantage of lying at the foot of that mountain range which borders the lake from Queenston. On these heights and beyond them are some of the most fertile lands in the Province, with a surface of a pleasing character. The view which we give of the city is taken from the mountain immediately to the westward, and affords a very pleasing prospect of the surrounding country, the waters of Bay and Lake and the opposite coast in the distance. The absence of prominent buildings on which the eye may rest, is a remarkable feature in the picture; there being only one spire visible and that not possessing any very striking architectural feature. The only other spire to be seen in the city is immediately under the point from whence the sketch has been taken and does not therefore come into view. On the left is seen Dundurn castle, the residence of Sir Allan Napier MacNab. The streets are well and regularly laid out, the principal one leading to the shipping place, forming one of the most striking objects in the picture. The society of Hamilton is purely a mercantile one, and a considerable portion of its wealthiest members are from the "land c' cakes." The descendants of the loyalists who came over to Canada in large numbers, at the declaration of independence by the United States, compose a large proportion of the inhabitants of the surrounding country, but in the city itself recent immigrants preponderate. There is always a violent demonstration of loyalty upon every admissible occasion, and this neighbourhood has always been considered as the stronghold of this feeling. Long may they continue steadfast in it.

Few persons visiting this city for the first time can realize the fact that he is walking through the streets of a town built within so brief a period. The appearance of wealth and luxury displayed in the shops and private buildings, the bustle and activity of the people, the whole business air of the place, seems to

tell of a more matured condition of things.—The business going on, however, and the evident improvement in the character of the structures in progress, or recently completed, stamp at once the transition state of the place, and the mind becomes lost in speculation as to the limit of this increase and the ultimate extent and importance which may be anticipated. There certainly seems to be no circumstance likely to arrest its prosperity, and despite the rivalry which appears to be growing up between Hamilton and Toronto, it is not probable that their interests will ever be antagonistic. As the stream of population spreads out more widely over the face of the land, so will the element of their mutual growth multiply and become more distinct. They are far enough apart, to be each the centre of a district more extensive than the largest county in England, and which will, in the course of a very few years, at the same rate of influx, become quite as, if not far more, populous. It were well that this spirit, therefore, should animate them in a laudable manner. There is sufficient room for improvement in many departments of social life, and in the several appliances so essential to the improvement and well-being of communities. To the establishment of Public Institutions designed to foster and promote the intelligence and mental superiority of the growing generation by the encouragement of literary and scientific pursuits, the acquisition of a taste for the fine arts, music, and the other sources of intellectual and wholesome recreation. These are channels in which their energy may be exerted, their laudable ambition gratified, to the good of their inhabitants and their own honor. It is not alone the worth of property, the largest trading fleet, the wealthiest merchants, the fastest boats, or the greatest number of railroads, which combine to elevate the character of a city. The traveller looks for something more; the historian desires to record the evidence of a more lasting, a more enviable civilized condition, not that we would be construed to imply, that there are no signs of this higher state of things in these cities or particularly in Hamilton—but we only reiterate our opinion expressed with reference to the other cities already described, that these form too inconsiderable a portion of their constitution. We look in vain for almost the germ of a Public