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Miscellaneous Articles.

RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.—No. II.

Toward the close of our former remarks under the above title, it was observed that "In the present altered aspect and circumstances of the country, it must be difficult to conceive the realities of the case twenty years ago." And in addition to what was then noticed of the change from forests to well cultivated and fruitful fields and actual roads, a few more hints may with propriety be given, since such vast and speedy changes as we are thus led to note, furnish ample material at once for reflection and anticipation.

The stranger, on now reaching Canada, scarcely fails to be impressed with the amazing facilities furnished by the vast Lakes which stretch along our Southern and Western borders, and the numerous and elegant steamers which during the season of navigation ply thereon, carrying vast loads of human beings and the varied articles of commerce. At the date to which we refer, however, though these same lakes were indeed there, beautiful and vast, and indicating as they had done for ages, the wise and beneficent arrangements of a bountiful Creator; and suggesting to the reflecting mind the traffic which at some future period would be carried on through them; it was then no easy matter to find means of conveyance by water. Between Kingston and the "Little York" of that time, a steamboat once or twice a week in summer passed along, but did not observe regular days; as for hours they were then of no account in travelling. Between Toronto, or York, and the "Head of the Lake" too, an odd-looking craft called a steamboat crept over the waters, but judging from our own feelings during a seven hour's voyage, when the surface of the water was like glass, we could suppose that it was