

TOPOGRAPHICAL NOTICES—continued.

Buffalo is situated on the north-eastern extremity of Lake Erie, and at the commencement of the Niagara River. It was laid out in 1801, and grew slowly until 1812, numbering at that time 100 houses. It now became a military post, and in December, 1813, was burned by the British, with the exception of two buildings, in retaliation for the burning of Newark, now Niagara, by the Americans. It gradually recovered from this calamity; but 30 years ago it contained only 4,000 inhabitants, and at the present day it is a magnificent city of upwards of 80,000 souls! Its greatness—like Detroit and Chicago—must be attributed to its being on the highroad from Europe to the Far West—a highroad travelled annually by hundreds of thousands of emigrants, who pass through Buffalo—the great toll-gate between the East and the West. There are many excellent Hotels in Buffalo, among which we may mention the Mansion House and the Wadsworth House.

Dunville—situated on the Grand River, at a point where it is intersected by the feeder of the Welland Canal. It is a place of considerable business, and contains a population of about 1,500; several grist and plaster mills, and a tannery.

The Welland Canal is one of the many works of the same kind of which Canadians may be proud. This Canal affords a passage for sloops and schooners of 125 tons burden, around the Falls of Niagara, and connects Lake Erie with Lake Ontario. It is 42 miles long, 56 feet wide, and from 8½ to 16 feet deep. The whole descent from one Lake to the other is 334 feet, which is accomplished by 37 locks. It has a deep cut through the mountain ridge 45 feet deep. This Canal was completed in 1829, at a cost of \$1,000,000.

Brantford, beautifully situated on the Grand River, and named after Brant, the renowned Chief of the Six Nations Indians, who, with his tribe, steadily supported the Crown during the American War. In "*Gertrude of Wyoming*," he is alluded to in disparaging terms:—

"The mammoth comes—the dead, the monster Brant."

But some years afterwards Campbell was obliged to apologize to Brant's son, who happened to visit London; as it appeared, on satisfactory evidence, his father was not even present at the horrible desolation of Wyoming. This much is due to the memory of Brant, who was a brave warrior and a steadfast ally of the British, and always exerted himself to mitigate the horrors of war.

Brantford, until the opening of the Great Western Railway, was a great wheat market, the streets being crowded with hundreds of waggons daily; but that Road created other markets, and to this extent, the Town has suffered. It has, however, other sources of prosperity. There is no place in the Province which commands such extensive water power, and which is made available for the working of numerous Mills. The Iron Foundries, Machine Shops, and Potteries are on a large scale, and have caused the place to be regarded as the Birmingham of Canada. It has a goodly number of Churches of various denominations, and one of the largest and handsomest Hotels in the Province—"The Kirby House." "Tripp's" is also good. Population about 6000.

[Notices of places on other Railways are in course of preparation.]