

1435
OUR OWN CITY

» The City of Names «

Introduction

IN Ontario are all the conditions necessary for the maintenance of a large population. The extent of good arable land, fine climate, and its freedom from drought and excessive rains render it peculiarly well adapted for the production of vast quantities of agricultural products. A comparison of Ontario with the older countries in Europe will in some degree give an idea of the vast capabilities of our Province. Belgium, for instance, has an area of 11,372 square miles, and supports about 5,500,000 of a population, or about 471 persons to the square mile; whereas in Ontario we do not average more than eight to the square mile; and also our climate and soil and sources of mineral wealth are superior. Then for further comparison we have the Netherlands with over double the population of Ontario and only one-nineteenth of the area, and a very much inferior climate, and in no respect comparable to this Province; also Denmark, with double the population, and only one-sixteenth the area, and not in any respect to be compared with this country. Then again there is the great German Empire with her 50,000,000 of a population and in that alone is she superior to Ontario, half of her area being scarcely suitable for agricultural purposes. Is there any reason why Ontario should not become as densely populated in the future as these states just mentioned. It is the opinion of a great many that before another century has passed by, the continent of America will be as thickly populated as Europe. Had it been possible for the people of Europe who lived during the time the population was light, to have seen the state of affairs at the present time, would they not have bought extensively of real estate? Is this not a lesson for those living here with such advantages before them, and real es-