

town will in all probability shortly spring up ; true, there are other parts where they have less rock and can boast of better farming country ; but there is no spot more healthy or romantic than this. Here the sportsman and the pleasure-seeker can enjoy the richest possible treat, and men with shattered constitutions may here have them repaired. Ye broken-down millionaires, fly hither and recuperate !

The Rev. Alex. Kennedy, of Pickering, writes under date 21st Dec., 1870 :—

“ My intercourse with settlers, whether village or landward, gave me a highly favourable opinion of their intelligence, energy, self-reliance, and contentment. I do trust that, by diligent effort and sobriety, they will win for themselves prosperity in their forest homes. Of the soil and climate of the country my very limited knowledge forbids me to speak dogmatically ; but, from what I saw and learned, my conviction is that both are better than your rocky southern entrance and your northern latitude would lead a stranger to infer. But of your lake scenery I feel free to speak in the highest terms. It has been my lot to see many corners of creation in several and distant lands ; but, for romantic grandeur, I am not sure that I have seen anything to surpass Lake Muskoka, with its all but countless islands and its rocky and wooded shores. Without much hazard of prophetic failure, the day may be predicted, and not far distant either, when the wealthy in our large cities will erect villas for the summer residence of their families on the healthful and enchanting shores of Lake Muskoka.”

THE CROPS.

Splendid samples of wheat have been raised in the district, the yield being large and the grain of superior quality. From practical experience the writer feels confident that, by good tillage and by paying proper attention to the rotation of crops, this staple can be profitably raised. Oats grow luxuriantly and pay well, we have seen as good oats here as we ever beheld either in Ireland or Scotland, and recommend Scotchmen in particular to make Muskoka their home, for they will be certain to have an abundance of oat-cake and porridge.

Indian corn does well in some localities. It has been successfully raised by the Indians since they can remember.

Great crops of potatoes and turnips are also raised, and of the very best quality. Vegetables of all kinds do well. Apple trees, berry-bushes