

PHILADELPHIA.

(A SKETCH.)

The following graphic sketch of the good old city, by our esteemed correspondent "C. C.," cannot fail to prove interesting to Canadians, and we cheerfully bespeak for it the special attention of our readers.

The good old city of Philadelphia, founded by Saxon Quakers in the 17th Century, is, if we consider its general character, the finest in the Union, and one of the centres of that manufacturing industry, for which America is so widely known. Situated on the shores and nearly surrounded by the rivers Delaware and Schuylkill, it is possessed of great water advantages, and it is further surrounded by the happiest geological, sanitary and other conditions so important to the wants of a populous civilized community.

The city is laid out in strict compliance with the *parallel* principle so much admired by those whose business it is to be acquainted with city-olgy. The streets, for the most part perfectly straight, cross each other at right angles, forming a net-work of houses and streets very exactly, though, perhaps, somewhat oddly represented by the spaces and wires of a sieve, being literally formed of squares, or blocks of houses similar to its spaces, while the wires would very correctly represent the position of the streets. This formation has facilitated the introduction of what, to an European, would seem as a very peculiar nomenclature. We fancy, for instance, a John Bull just fresh from the Atlantic, would be sorely puzzled on enquiring for an address, to find the following or similar graphic combinations of sounds falling against his tympanum: "Chestnut street is five blocks up, and so and so, is on Chestnut and Twelfth"—"six squares below Pine"—"on Filbert and Second"—and so on; and yet, with a little familiarity with the city, these are perfectly intelligible, and are moreover, very exact and business-like directions. But more particularly as to the nomenclature. In the first place it would appear to be the result, for the greater part of the combined wisdom of Mathematicians and Horticulturalists; the former, having christened one class of principal streets, something like thirty in number, after the progressive order of figures—thus we have second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and so on; while another class seem to have fallen into the hands of the Horticulturists, who have given us Chesnut, Walnut, Pine, Cherry, Filbert and the like.