

THE

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THE CITIES OF CANADA.

KINGSTON.

THERE are few circumstances better calculated to convey a correct impression of the progressive condition of this colony, than an occasional journey over Lake Ontario in one of the water palaces which now float on its surface. When gliding along the coast with such speed, the mind is irresistibly led to contrast the scene with that which first met the eye, and old associations are awakened touching bateaux, schooners, head winds and the multifarious discomforts attending the primitive navigation of earlier voyagers. Fifteen hours, stoppages included, now constitute the utmost limit of time which the grumbling traveller can sanction for the performance of that journey which not very many years ago, as many are able to testify from personal experience, occupied commonly three weeks and occasionally a more extended period. Then, one dense forest clothed the landscape in unbroken line along the coast; here and there a few blackened stumps indicated the points of rest and refuge to the weary paddler and the storm-staif vessel. Now the meadow and the corn-field cover the slopes which border on the Lake. The cosy farm house is seen peeping from among clumps of wisely cherished trees, and flourishing towns with goodly harbours re-

ceive the cleaving prow. The character of the country we pass in our trip to Kingston, is in pleasing contrast to the upper part or even the opposite coast of the Lake. A rolling surface, with frequent bold and projecting cliffs, vary the monotony of flatness elsewhere seen, and something like a distance is observable in many places, the blue tinge so celebrated by the poet as adding enchantment to the scene, being rather more discernible, and at some places decidedly picturesque.

COWANS strikes the eye very forcibly from its situation, and makes us think we again look upon some of those coast-towns we were wont to admire, in our summer trips, about the eastern coast of our father-land.

The approach to the blue city offers, to the contemplation of the visitor, a landscape of singular feature and pleasing aspect. The approximating shores of the Lake indented with numerous inlets, the islands scattered about before us, among which we glide with pleasant smoothness, the river stealing its way from behind the buildings and the distant prospect up the Bay of Quinte, cannot be regarded with indifference, and impart an air of romance to the whole view, of a most agreeable nature. Standing in clear and bold relief against the sky, on a considerable elevation, the prominent buildings are at once perceived. The outline is one of peculiar tracing, at least