

belong to the Americans. The Thames, St. Clair and Sydenham rivers flow into Lake St. Clair. Area, 320 square miles. Height above the sea, 570 feet.

LAKE ERIE.—The most southerly and the shallowest of the Canadian lakes, in length 231 miles, and in its broadest part about 70. It receives the waters of the upper lake from the Detroit river, and discharges them by the Niagara. There are several small islands near the western extremity of the lakes, the principal being Point Pele Island. Area 10,000 square miles; height above the sea, 565 feet; mean depth, 200 feet.

RIVER THAMES.

The Thames is one of the principal rivers in Western Canada. The north or principal branch rises in the "great swamp," in the County of Perth, which is also the source of the Maitland, Saugeen, Bayfield, and Grand rivers. At London it is joined by the east branch, which takes its rise in the Township of Easthope, and passing through the County of Kent enters Lake St. Clair. It joined by several streams in its course.

The Thames affords excellent fishing at and above Delaware; and during the spring, whitefish, pike, pickerel, maskinonge, and occasionally sturgeon, are taken.

This river is navigable for steamboats and schooners to Louisville, a distance of nearly thirty miles from its mouth, its average depth at this point being 16 feet, and its breadth from 200 to 300 feet.

Some twenty years back the craft on the Thames differed somewhat from those of the present day. About that time the steamer *Brothers*, owned by W. & W. Eberts, (Walter Ebert, captain,) kept up the line between Chatham, Detroit and Windsor. She was built in Chatham, and taken off the line in 1857. The *Ploughboy* built for this line replaced the *Brothers*; she was a fast boat, low pressure, side wheel, and owned by the same parties. After a few years the same owners put on the *Canadian*; after which the *Islander*, owned by Steinhoff & Lapalme, took up the line. The steamer *Swan*, an American boat, ran opposition to the *Islander* for about two years, when both were taken off. The *Heather Belle*, an American boat, owned by John Stewart, Detroit, then monopolized the line until 1868, when the *Dominion* was put on the route, owned by Steinhoff & Black, (J. W. Steinhoff, captain,) which ran without opposition and with marked success. There