

JOURNAL, &c.

Thursday, May 6th, 1852.—This morning at ten o'clock I left this fine Wesleyan Mission at Rice Lake. The Indians of this mission are far advanced in civilization: they are all dressed like Europeans: on Sundays the congregation dress very well; the women have fine gowns on, &c.; and the blanket, which they formerly used as an article of dress is now seen no longer, but is exchanged for a shawl. There are choirs of Indians in the Churches who sing most delightfully in time of divine service. There is another Wesleyan Mission, seven miles from this, which is in a high state of civilization: the Indians of that place have a large Academy, built of brick, where young people are taught to be of use as Missionaries or Teachers in their country hereafter. The majority of these people are tee-totallers,—they take no wine or beer. The Rice Lake itself is one of the most beautiful lakes in Canada West: it is about thirty miles in length and three miles in breadth. In it wild rice grows, and consequently a great many wild ducks of all sorts frequent the lake. This is therefore a great sporting place for English gentlemen. In its waters abound muskinoonj, bals, eels, and other sorts of fish that take the hook. The lake is an excellent place for angling and trolling: very often gentlemen come from Boston, New-York, and other cities to amuse themselves in angling and trolling for weeks together. Also in the forest abound deer, pheasants, and rabbits, which make good sport for a marksman. The land around this lake is of good quality and very richly timbered with all sorts of valuable timber; it is well settled by English farmers, many of whom are independent gentlemen. On the north side of this beautiful lake is an Indian village, which is situated on high banks. A beautiful scenery is presented to the traveller's eye from this village, and the whole

length of the lake can be seen with one glance of the eye. The beautiful scenery that this lake presents would afford abundant matter to the traveller for exercising his poetical powers. There are four little steamboats on the lake, which are employed in bringing goods from village to village, and taking in return cargoes of wheat and other grain from Peterborough: some of them are also employed in bringing boards for the American market: by this it may be seen that the country and the lake have great resources.

At 12 o'clock we reached Harris's hotel, and landed there. Mr. Harris himself drove us in his carriage to Cobourg, which is 12 miles distant, on the fine plank road. From Cold Springs to Cobourg the country is very well settled, and many farmers live on the road. At 3 o'clock we arrived at the beautiful town of Cobourg. This beautiful town I cannot praise too highly: it is situated on elevated ground and is very healthy, for the inhabitants are refreshed by every breeze of wind that blows on Lake Ontario. In this place are many fine Churches, belonging to different denominations, and on the height of the bank at the north end of the town, stands conspicuously, the beautiful college called Victoria College, belonging to the great body of Wesleyans. Within its walls at the present time are about 70 students. This excellent college has already produced many eminent men; and God grant that it may produce more excellent statesmen and ministers who shall be an honour to the Province. At 7 o'clock we started in a steamer for Toronto, and arrived there during the night.

Friday, 7th, 1852.—I went about from place to place, getting a few things for my use in my long voyage. The city of Toronto is one of the