

Rubidge, R. N., and intended for the information of intending Emigrants, who have an account of the Town and country around it 1838. Speaking of the rapid progress of Towns in Canada, our pamphleteer says: "Peterborough especially is an instance of this. In 1826, it contained but one solitary dwelling; now, in 1838, may be seen nearly 400 houses, many of them large and handsome, inhabited by about fifteen hundred persons, a very neat stone church, capable of accomodating 800 or 900 persons; a Presbyterian Church of stone, two dissenting places of worship, and a Roman Catholic Church in progress. The Town has in or near it, two grist and seven saw mills, five distilleries, two breweries, two tanneries, eighteen or twenty shops called stores, carriage, sleigh, waggon, chair, harness, and cabinet makers, and most of the useful trades. Stages run all the year, bringing mails five times a week; and steamboats, while the navigation is open; there is one good tavern (White's), and two inferior ones. Families now find houses of any size to suit them, at moderate rents. The roads in this neighbourhood are being greatly improved."

* * * "On the Rice Lake two steamboats, the Sir Francis Head and the Northumberland, ply during the season. The sum of £94,000 was granted in the winter of 1836, and 1837, by the Provincial Legislature, for the improvement of the navigation of the River Trent, and the works at the Upper and Lower Sections have been put in progress." * * *

"The country along the entire route is settling fast, particularly the fine Townships of Seymour, Otonabee, Monaghan, Cavan, Douro, Smith, Percy, Asphodel, Ops, Emily, Ennismore, Verulam, Fenelon, Bexley, Sommerville, and Harvey. At Fenelon Falls, which are sixteen feet high, on a smaller scale like the Horse-shoe fall of Niagara, there is a large establishment of mills; and here, and in the townships bordering on the superb chain of Lakes, forming the inland communication, and connected with the Trent and Otonabee Rivers, are settled a great number of young men, sons of good families in the United Kingdom." The export of wheat alone from the Townships north of Rice Lake, about 5,000 bushels in 1827, had reached 150,000 bushels in 1838; furnishing a most incontestible proof of the rapid progress of the country.

In the year 1833, the project of connecting the waters of Lake Simcoe with those of Ontario by means of a Canal passing through Rice Lake and the Bay of Quinte, was generally discussed, and received the attention of the Government. Mr. N. H. Baird, Civil Engineer, was appointed by his Excellency Sir John Colborne to make a survey of the waters connecting those two Lakes with a view of deciding upon the eligibility of the route for that purpose. He entered upon the work in 1833, and in that year completed the survey of the Trent and Otonabee Rivers. Having received further instructions, he resumed the survey in 1835, and continued it from Peterboro' *via* the Otonabee, and back waters to Lake Simcoe. This report of his surveys were exceedingly favourable. The recapitulation of them, as interesting to day as at the time it was first made, was as follows:—