

CITY OF TORONTO.

Toronto, the Queen City of the West, is the largest and most populous in Western Canada; it is situated on the north shore of Lake Ontario, between the Humber and the Don Rivers, 30 miles N. N. W. of the mouth of the Niagara River. It was at first called York, but in 1833, when it was incorporated as the first City of the province of Ontario, then called Upper Canada, its name was changed to Toronto, derived either from the Mohawk De-on-do, "trees in the water," descriptive of the appearance of the Islands, or from Toronto, "the place of meeting" of the tribes. Some say Toronto was the name of a noted Indian Chief.

Of all the cities on the Canadian shore of Lake Ontario, Toronto is the largest and most important. Although not so picturesque, it is most agreeably situated. The handsome Bay, forming its southern front boundary, gives it as a lake port great commercial advantages, and collects for shipment to the seaboard more grain than all the other cities and towns in Ontario put together.

The view from the western entrance to the harbor and from the island is varied and striking. The spires and cupolas of its public buildings afford a most agreeable diversity to the distant outline of the city, and mark it as a place of wealth and enterprise.

From the cupola of the St. Lawrence Hall and the University at the north the view is both extensive and animating. The long lines of houses and the rectangular blocks of buildings, intersected by streets running towards the four cardinal points of the compass, and here and there a handsome church or an elegant edifice, strike the eye of a stranger with an agreeable surprise. Young in years it has none of the associations