

it were, the dawn of civilization, amusing and instructive as all are, are so much akin to similar stories from the pen of Mrs. Moodie, in "Roughing it in the Bush," that we must deny them a place, referring the curious to the very interesting book just mentioned. Oxford never was the settled home of the "son of the forest," and of Indian traditions we have few; and, strange to say, Gourley, in his Gazetteer, passes these unnoticed.

It was not, as we intimated, in participating in the defence of the country, that the pioneers of Oxford spent the dawn of their existence in the wilds of Canada. It was in the less exciting struggle to subdue the forest, and to open up avenues of communication to the outer world, that years of toil and hope were spent; and many of those sturdy men, sturdy in intellect as well as in loyal resolves and energy, yet live to see their sons in places of prominence in all the walks of life. Indeed, it is a circumstance creditable to the people of East Nissouri and of the Zorras, that a greater number of young men of the Mathesons, the Camerons, the Sutherlands, the Murrays, the McKenzies, the Olivers, the McKays, and the Munros, grace our pulpits, the courts, and the counting-room, than of any other section of the country, numbers taken into account. In common with every section of Canada, Oxford, has increased marvellously in wealth and importance—under the influences of our domestic institutions, that are, happily, free from the blighting influences of the Democracy across the border. Positions of trust are held, not on the frail tenure of party existence; and the intelligence of our people, as years roll onward, finds its highest aspiration in the hope that the land of the maple leaf will forever maintain its distinguished position in the Empire that acknowledges the sovereignty of her who was awarded, by her faithful Parliament, the august title of "Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India;" and irrespective of party, the prayer of all is, that we may live in the fear of God, in dutiful allegiance to the Crown and Constitution of the Realm, and in brotherly love and Christian charity toward each other.

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNTY OF OXFORD.

Before entering upon the subject of the representation of the County of Oxford, it may not be out of place to state that, in 1792, Letters Patent were issued by Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe, dividing the Province of Upper Canada into Counties, and apportioning the representation thereof.

The following are the names of the Counties, with the number of representatives they were sending to the House of

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