

The River Maitland affords of itself many important advantages, arising out of the numerous sites it presents for the erection of mills of every description, and likewise for the excellence of the fish with which it abounds. The lake is equally well stored, and yields especially great quantities of sturgeon. The broad expanse of its beautifully transparent waters, whilst it adds to the interest of the locality, and favourably influences the atmospheric changes, affords an advantageous means of forwarding and receiving goods to and from the lower extremities of the Province through the straits, lakes, and canals, by which, in fact, an uninterrupted water communication is opened to the Atlantic Ocean."

The personal appearance of Colonel Bouchette, the author of the work now quoted from, is familiar to most persons from the portrait prefixed to it, which also appeared in the volume of 1815, and has been reproduced in a pamphlet, setting forth the claim of M. Bouchette's heirs to certain sums of money alleged to be due from the Government of Canada.

Bouchette was the first to lay down with accuracy the outlines of the peninsula which formed the harbour of Toronto. In a reduced plan in his 4to. work, we can see how the peninsula was gradually generated. We can see that there has been (1) a constant drift of materials from the east, and (2) a constant tendency in this drift to be turned northwards, and then back again eastwards by the action of southerly and westerly winds. At one period, the inward tendency was so successful as actually to form a connection with the shore, the only interruption in the continuity of the material being the outlet of the Don. Probably at this period the Scarboro' heights extended far out into the lake, and sheltered the sandy embankment which had been formed. After the establishment of this union with the shore, a steady drift from the east still went on, carrying material year after year westward, that material, however, now spreading itself more than before, but still showing a tendency continually to turn in towards the mainland, forming a succession of irregular hooks.

This remarkable wing-shaped breakwater was the *raison d'être* of Toronto. It attracted the eye of the first organizer of Upper Canada, and led him to lay the foundations of the capital of the new province where now it stands. The coolness with which the demolition of this all-important peninsula is beheld by the general public is some