

half an hour of the New York Central Railroad, with its many connections throughout the United States, and an hour of Buffalo, thus giving to the traveller a choice of routes to any point west or south, not forgetting the New York and Erie Railway, as a short, cheap and pleasant route to New York, Boston, Philadelphia and points further south; while going west from St. Catharines, on the Great Western Railway, we pass through Hamilton, on the main line, to Paris, Brantford, Woodstock, London and Chatham, to Detroit,—there again making connections further west. At Hamilton, the traveller for Toronto, Kingston, and Montreal, takes the Toronto Branch line, and arrives at those places without delay. Hence it will be seen that St. Catharines is unsurpassed in Canada for the facilities it offers both to the traveller and the shipper, for transit either by rail or water.

St. Catharines will vie with any of the larger Canadian cities or towns in the architectural beauty and design of a large proportion of its buildings, both public and private. The Town Hall, an elegant cut-stone building, erected at a cost of sixteen thousand dollars, is now having a large uniform addition put to it, to be used as a Court House and County Offices—the inhabitants of the county having decided to make St. Catharines, instead of Niagara, the county town. This addition, when completed, will make the aggregate cost of the building about thirty-two thousand dollars. The churches, the majority of which are situated on Church Street, are, for the most part, fine edifices, and finished after the modern styles of church architecture. Chief among the hotels are the Stephenson, Welland, and Murray Houses: all first-class establishments, built with a view to the accommodation of the travelling public, and fitted up in a manner to suit the tastes of the most fastidious. The Grammar School, together with the Public School buildings, are all neat and substantial brick structures; while many of the private residences have beautifully laid-out grounds surrounding them, planted with almost every variety of shade tree, and present abundant evidence of the liberality, taste, and refinement of the citizens of this flourishing town.

The water power afforded by the canal is unlimited, and has already been largely taken advantage of for milling purposes and other industrial pursuits, an account of which will be found under the proper heading.

St. Catharines possesses great attractions for the invalid as well as the pleasure-seeker and business-man, there being a mineral Well in