

THE CANADA CHRISTIAN MONTHLY.

JULY, 1877.

Editorial.

THEN AND NOW.



THE publication of the Rev. Mr. Patterson's History of the County of Pictou,* Nova Scotia, in the same year with the first meeting of the Presbyterian General Assembly in Halifax, suggests interesting points in the progress of Canada within the past hundred years in things human and Divine, in privileges material and spiritual.

In the year 1787, as a simple instance of material progress, we learn from one of Mr. Patterson's notes to chapter eighth of the above volume, that there were only four or five horses between Salmon River and Antigonish. "We have heard," we quote from the note, "John McLean, of West River, tell of the first horse he ever saw. He heard of a man in the neighborhood having got such an animal, and not long after, being down in the interval, he was struck with terror at the sudden appearance of a huge beast, which he considered must be the aforesaid horse. He retained his faculties, however, sufficiently to consider whether it would be better immediately to take flight, but concluded, that if he did so, it might lead the animal to pursue him. He therefore glided away quietly till he got some bushes between himself and the horse, when he took to his heels, and ran with all his might till he reached home."

* A History of the County of Pictou, Nova Scotia; By the Rev. George Patterson, D.D. Montreal: Dawson Brothers. Toronto: Jas. Campbell & Son.