

tion on a variety of subjects almost entirely unknown, I have considered it a duty which I owe to my countrymen, to lay before them the results of my investigations.

Early in the year 1826, Mr. Rennie was requested by Government to furnish a Clerk of Works to the Rideau Canal, in Upper Canada, then about to be commenced, and proposed to extend between the Ottawa River and Lake Ontario, a distance of 160 miles, through an uncleared wilderness. Being selected as a proper person to fill this situation, I undertook the arduous duties attached to it, and immediately proceeded to the active scene of operations.

Having zealously pursued my avocations, the nature of which will be found detailed in the work, my health began to suffer in the summer of 1828, from the malaria of the swampy wastes, to which I was necessarily much exposed. With a view to benefit by the change of climate, and to regulate other affairs, I returned to England at the close of last year.

The following extract, from an official letter,