

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CHIEF FEATURES OF OTTAWA CITY.

Though the present "Hand Book" was designed chiefly with the view of furnishing tourists with a detailed description of the Parliament and Departmental Buildings of the Dominion of Canada, the Compiler has thought it as well to offer, at the same time, a brief notice of the principal features of interest, both in the City of Ottawa itself, as well as in the surrounding neighborhood.

No stranger can fail to be struck at a glance with the many natural advantages that the City of Ottawa possesses both of beauty and utility, and a closer acquaintance with the *locale* more than confirms the first impression.

Something seems to have inspired its founders with a prophetic vision of its destiny as the future Capital of the Dominion, for it appears from the first to have been laid out on an immense scale.

Its principal streets are of great width and extend from East to West nearly three miles, and throughout the whole of these, the meaner buildings are being gradually displaced by erections worthy of the large thoroughfares upon which they are situated.

The limits of the City do not at present extend more than half a mile back from the Ottawa River frontage, but its natural and ultimate limits are evidently destined to extend to the Rideau Canal, which together with the Rideau River in the rear, and the Ottawa River in its front, will enclose the City site in a Peninsula, the area of which will be three miles long by three miles broad, affording room for a City population of the largest class. The beautiful new gravel road just finished running from Wellington street to the Rideau Canal which it crosses by a swing Bridge, affords an excellent guage for the future breadth of Ottawa City, north and south. It is called Gloucester Road and runs through the property of W. Powell, Esq., Sheriff of Carleton, and is already being taken up by Merchants, Government Officials and others desiring suburban residences, and is resorted to as a favorite drive. This may be pronounced by some a "Day-Dream" but Ottawa has already realized more wonderful