

Upper Canada, spent his holidays during the three months' armistice in the summer and fall of 1812 after the capture of Detroit, and prior to his lamented fall at Queenston Heights. It was at Oak-Hill the Duke of Kent, Her Majesty's father, was entertained for some weeks on the occasion of his visit to Upper Canada, when in command of the North American Squadron. (See Dr. Scadding's 'Toronto of Old'). A short distance beyond Oak Hill the valley and sewer cross Shaw street through "Brock's Pasture," along Given street and across College through the Crawford estate to Bloor street, the whole distance north of Queen street to near Bloor being through the most picturesque scenery, the heights being crowned with the most magnificent growth of both deciduous and evergreen trees, oak, elm, ash,

Toronto, July 1.

S. D. HAGEL.

## The Rosedale Ravines—A Proposed Beginning.

From the World July 14, 1886.

It can be seen that the interest taken by leading citizens, in the getting up of parks and drives around the city is increasing daily; and we may fairly hope that something will be done "ere long." As explained in our report (printed in another column) of a preliminary meeting held yesterday afternoon, two different views as to the best way of going to work have been set forth. Mr. Gordon Brown is of the opinion that the only right way to proceed is, under competent professional advice, to frame a complete scheme of parks and drives around the city, on a scale worthy of Toronto's "manifest destiny," and then to submit it all at once, and as a whole, to the citizens for approval. He holds that only by going to the ratepayers with a complete scheme, providing for east, west and north at the same time, can sectional jealousy be disarmed, and the voting of a sufficient sum secured. If, he says, you begin in any particular quarter, no matter where, the residents in other quarters will think themselves neglected, and will kick. Mr. Hallam, on the other hand, is chief spokesman for those who think that the three Rosedale ravines, running northward from the Don valley, are peculiarly adapted for beginning with. This appears to be true in at least one respect—they constitute the only section where proprietors and residents are ready, not only to pay their share of general taxation for the purpose indicated, but also to give the right of way free, and to add a handsome private subscription in cash besides. The point is a strong one in their favor, and will probably be deemed conclusive by the council.

We have already in these columns taken the ground that the safer and surer way of going to work is to begin immediately with some certain section or sections of the work, and to do it on such design, and in such manner that what we build now shall, upon artistic principles, and as regards the efficiency of the work and convenience of the public, be in harmony with the larger design for a complete system of parks and drives around the city, which we hope to see realized some of these days. For instance, an architect might see no difficulty at all in erecting now one wing of a large building, which should perfectly harmonize with the design for the whole, when the building was completed in after years. We freely admit that this is one point in favor of Mr. Hallam's plan; while, as we have already said, the offer of right of way free and a handsome cash bonus raised by private subscription is another and a very strong one.

Still, we should like to see the Rosedale ravines project supplemented with something else—something that would interest residents of the west end. Mr. Hallam's plan contemplates beginning the drive at Riverside park, and thence going north and west. This localizes the present proposed improvements in the east, and the question of "what is to be done for the west?"—will at once turn up. Now, the west has only one ravine capable of being turned to account as an ornamental drive, and that is the Garrison creek hollow, say from Queen northward as far as College street, to begin with. Why should we not have movement for mak-