

THE Township of Hamilton is the most westerly Township in the County of Northumberland, one of the counties of the Old Newcastle District. This township is bounded on the east by the township of Haldimand, on the south by Lake Ontario, west by the township of Hope, county of Durham, north by Rice Lake, and a small part on the northwest corner by the township of South Monaghan. The Township of Hamilton may be described as a fairly average township for the growth of crops or the production of stock. The land for two or three miles north from Lake Ontario is generally level ; the soil being clay, or clay loam. Behind this is a series of low hills and undulating land, which seems to have been at some former period a lake beach. The soil on this rolling land is of a lighter quality, in some cases gravelly, in others covered to some extent with large boulder stones, such as geologists attribute to the action of icebergs. Behind these we reach the highest land between the lakes, and then the plains that reach nearly to Rice Lake. On these plains the top soil is of a loamy nature, with a clayey subsoil. They produce good crops of all kinds of grain and roots.

The Township is fairly well watered by springs and creeks, and water can in most cases be got at no great depth by digging. Beginning at the east side, the first creek is known as Covert's. This is a good sized creek. There used to be a grist, and oat meal mill on this creek. About a mile west from this there is a small creek that used to run all the year, but now goes dry in summer. On this stream there used to be a distillery and tannery. About a mile further west there is a large creek—McDonald's creek by name. On this creek there was a tannery. West from Cobourg there is the largest stream in the township. It has many widely-spreading branches. The east branch of this creek rises in Haldimand and enters this township near the front of the fourth concession, while its west branch reaches lot 24, thus draining a large part of the front of the township.