

to ascertain the precise distance of the several routes which I have done myself the honour of detailing to you, and hope to complete the military street or road the ensuing autumn." And in 1794, he reports: "Dundas Street, the road proposed from Burlington Bay to the River Thames, half of which is completed, will connect by an internal communication the Detroit and the settlements at Niagara. It is intended to be extended northerly to York by the troops, and in process of time by the respective settlers to Kingston and Montreal."

At the present time, I believe, the practice has become somewhat obsolete of applying the name *Dundas Street* to the whole of the long highway originally so called, extending from Detroit to the Point au Baudet. A portion of it immediately west of Toronto, may be spoken of as the Dundas road; and the prevalent impression may be that the name denotes simply the route which leads to the town of Dundas. But this, of course, would be quite a mistaken idea to adopt. On the old manuscript maps, contemporary with the first organization of the country, long before the town of Dundas existed, the route from the Western to the Eastern limit of Upper Canada was marked *Dundas Street* throughout its whole length. And thus we have it still laid down in the excellent and interesting map of Canada given in the handsome, large General Atlas published in Edinburgh, by John Thomson, in 1817, constructed from authentic sources, and dedicated to Alexander Keith, of Dunottar and Ravelston. And at the end of the first Gazetteer of Upper Canada, published in London in 1799, we have the following postscript which, while serving to shew that the whole of the highway from the west to the east was denominated *Dundas Street*, will also help us to realize the stern conditions in respect of means of inter-communication and locomotion under which our patient fathers first began to shape out and mould for us the pleasant rural scenes, the amenities and comforts of civilized life, everywhere now to be beheld and enjoyed amongst us. This postscript, dated 1799, reads thus: "Since the foregoing notes have come from the press, the editor is informed that the Dundas Street has been considerably improved between the head of Lake Ontario and York; and that the Government has contracted for the opening of it from that city to the head of the Bay of Quinté, a distance of 120 miles, as well as for causewaying of the swamps and erecting the necessary bridges, so that it is hoped, in a short time, there will be a tolerable road from Quebec