

the size of the parks in and near the great city, where land is more precious than anywhere in the world. Here is Richmond Park of 2,255 acres. Windsor Park is still larger. Bushy Park, near by, has 11,000 acres. Epping Forest, twelve miles from London, contains 3,000 acres. Hyde Park and Regent's Park, in the heart of London, comprise nearly 1,000 acres.

Richmond is a charming town, climbing the steep slopes which overlook the winding Thames. It has that comfortable air of finish and maturity which shows that it has long ago reached its majority—so unlike our restless, growing Canadian towns. The comfortable villas, lovely lawns and gardens have such a delightful air of repose, as if here the eager rush of life was never



VIEW NEAR RICHMOND.

known. From the summit of the hill is one of the loveliest conceivable prospects of stately park, majestic trees, quaint old ivy-covered churches and placid reaches of the Thames, gay with white-winged pleasure-boats and joyous boating parties. This scene forms the subject of one of Turner's finest paintings in the National Gallery. The scene is thus pictured for us in the graphic lines of the poet Thomson :

Here let us trace the matchless vale of Thames,
Far-winding up to where the Muses haunt—
To Twickenham's bowers; to royal Hampton's pile;
To Claremont's terraced heights and Esher's groves.
Enchanting vale! beyond whatever the Muse
Has of Achaia or Hesperia sung.