

its mouth. Barrack Hill, the site of the new Houses of Parliament and Government Buildings, is one of the two promontories which jut out into the river. The edifice intended for the residence of the Governor General will be situated on the other side of the canal.

The situation selected is the most beautiful that can be imagined. In no other city of America, Quebec excepted, can it be equalled. Indeed, there is a certain similarity in the landscape viewed from Barracks Hill and the magnificent panorama of Capo Diamond. On one side, the Chaudière Falls with the suspension bridge, stand boldly out from the background; on the other side the Gatineau and the Ottawa Rivers form a vast expanse of water.

The Parliament Building is designed in the Romanesque style, and bears a great resemblance, as may be seen by the wood-cut in the *Illustrated London News*, to the building of the University of Toronto, a drawing of which we had engraved for our Journal. This species of Gothic architecture combining simplicity with elegance, approaches the Grecian in some respects, and is well adapted to our climate. The high roofs of the towers enriched with serrated iron-work, and the pinnacles and vanes will, when finished, be visible for many miles. The elevation of the principal tower will be 180 feet; the edifice itself will be 475 feet in length, and flanked by six smaller towers. The halls of both branches of the Legislature are placed on each side of the interior court, and are as large as those of the Imperial Parliament, viz: 90 feet in length and 45 feet in breadth.

The library is isolated from the main building, circular in form, and is on the side facing the river. It will be capable of containing 300,000 volumes; and to render it thoroughly fire-proof no combustible materials will enter in its construction. Considering the loss of two great collections of books, the friends of learning and of science will rejoice to hear that at last the country may hope to preserve this third national library, which already rivals the former in importance; that no accident may overtake it before its new destination is reached must be the fervent wish of all.

Shortly after the ceremony of laying the corner-stone, the Prince received the denizens of Ottawa at the Victoria Hotel, where a great many gentlemen were presented.

During the afternoon His Excellency the Governor General gave a collation at which the Prince, the members of the Legislature, the Mayor, the members of the Town Council, and many other persons were present. At a call from His Excellency the name of Her Majesty the Queen was duly honored, as also that of Prince Albert, proposed by Sir N. F. Belleau; Sir Henry Smith then gave as a toast His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who in response proposed the healths of the Governor General and of the members of both branches of the Legislature.

The Prince found leisure to visit the suspension bridge over the Chaudière Falls, which unites Upper with Lower Canada; and having taken his station upon a crib, descended one of the slides which serve the purpose of floating timber past the rapids. Fond of excitement as young people generally are, His Royal Highness was delighted with this experiment, which is not altogether free from danger. After a canoe race the amusements were brought to a close by an illumination and a torchlight procession.

The originality and ingenuousness of the following address, presented to His Royal Highness by the raftsmen at the timber slides of the Ottawa, must have made amends for the ennui inflicted upon him by many of the more studied, though less impressive, official documents:—

We, the Raftsmen of the Upper Ottawa, constitute a body of 13,000 men, the bone and sinew of Canada.

We take advantage of meeting your Royal Highness upon a raft, respectfully to offer you our hearty welcome, and to express our loyalty, our devotion, and our affection for the Queen. God bless you May Your Royal Highness long remain the Prince of Wales.

On Sunday the Prince attended Divine Service at Christ Church: the officiating priest was Rev. J. S. Lauder, Rector of the parish.

Monday, His Royal Highness ascended the river as far as Arnprior.

The River Ottawa (the *Otaouais* of the French), so called from the name of an Indian tribe which has almost disappeared was the principal channel through which communication was kept up between Lower Canada and the Great Lakes, not only during the early times of the colony, but until the construction of the St. Lawrence Canals. The Rideau Canal that joins Kingston with Ottawa City was, during a long time, the route followed by the trade between the Upper and Lower Provinces. The fur

traders with their *voyageurs* also ascended this river on their way to the North-West.

Were the recently formed project of making a canal to Lake Huron via French River and Lake Nipissing carried out, this ancient route would probably become one of the great commercial arteries of North America.

The Rideau Canal was constructed under the direction of Col. By of the Royal Engineers, by whose name the town was long known, and who may be justly considered as its founder. This great canal, was undertaken in 1827, as an indispensable military work to secure the communication with the naval armament of the lakes, and for the purveyance of the divers military posts maintained in time of war.

Ottawa has at present a population of about 14,000 inhabitants; of whom about one third in number are French Canadians, one third Irish Catholics, and the remaining third Scotch, English, and Irish Protestants. This town is the seat of a Roman Catholic Bishop, whose diocese, embracing a portion of each Province, extends on both banks of the Ottawa. The cathedral is a fine Gothic edifice; and from its spire which rises to a great height, the eye discovers a charming prospect, almost boundless, and diversified with rivers, rapids, forests, cultivated fields, and rising villages. This church contains a picture of *The Flight into Egypt* by Murillo, the gift of Mr. Derbyshire.

Mgr. Guigues, the first Bishop of Ottawa, is by birth a Frenchman and one of the Order of *Pères Oblats*. He has established in his episcopal seat a classical college under the direction of this Order; a Hospital and several schools managed by the *Seurs Grises*, or Sisters of Charity of Montreal, and he takes the liveliest interest in the public schools of his diocese.

There are also in the town a Grammar School, and several other public schools controlled by the Department of Public Instruction of Upper Canada. Among the other institutions we notice a Mechanics' Institute, and an *Institut Canadien-Français*, possessing a good library, which is indebted to the munificence of the Emperor of the French for some very valuable works, including the *Galerie de Versailles*, and *Catacombes de Rome*.

Situated in the midst of the valley watered by the Ottawa and its numerous tributaries, and which contains thousands of thousands of acres of land covered with valuable forests of white and red pine, extending along the boundary between Upper and Lower Canada, this place is naturally the great centre of the lumber trade. This trade, the source of its prosperity, affords employment to the lumberers and raftsmen, who, by their habits and mode of life, bear a strong resemblance to the *voyageurs* of the North-West, and give to the town an appearance quite original and picturesque. Several mills, including sawmills, are in operation in the vicinity, the canal and the falls affording a water-power of great importance.

Besides the *Chaudière*, or *Kettle Falls*, so called from the chasm in which the water disappears, Ottawa City boasts of the Falls of the *Rideau*, which derive this name from the water falling in an extended white sheet.

His Royal Highness and suite reached the Chats Rapids about noon in the steamer *Emerald*; having passed the portage, the party embarked in canoes and continued their journey until they arrived at Arnprior, 40 miles from Ottawa City, and 127 miles from the junction of the River Ottawa with the St. Lawrence. Having received addresses from the Warden of the Counties of Lanark and Renfrew, and partaken of a lunch, the Prince proceeded to Almonte, the nearest station of the Bytown and Prescott Railway, where he took the cars for Brockville, arriving in this town about eight o'clock p. m. While on this rapid excursion, which however extended over a considerable tract, the Royal party was received everywhere with spirited demonstrations of joy, which, though less ostentatious than those made by large towns, were doubtless as acceptable and as flattering to the feelings of the young Prince. Night had set in when the train arrived at Brockville, but the torches of 300 firemen and a general illumination of the town completely dispelled the gloom. His Royal Highness was conducted to a tastefully decorated and brilliantly illuminated pavilion, which had been constructed for the occasion, near the railway station; here the addresses of the town and of its institutions were read.

Brockville, named in honor of the hero of Niagara, is situated on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, at the entrance of the Lake of the Thousand Islands. Its population numbers about 4000 souls. It is well built, and rises in the shape of an amphitheatre from a charming site; its pretty churches, and neat brick houses and shops give it a cheerful appearance. Several old English families are settled here, and it is the birthplace of some