

pen of Wm. Lyon Mackenzie, descriptive of a trip made through this part of the country the previous winter, and from which the following extracts are taken:—

"The Windmill. Shoults's Defence. Desolation. It was near dark in the evening when we reached the windmill below Prescott, which has been rendered famous as the scene of Von Shoults's defence. I found that my teamster, a stout young farmer from Nova Scotia, was an out-and-out Loyalist. He even undervalued the Pole's bravery because he had 'taken refuge in the mill,' which is built of stone, a lofty structure of great strength, but not now used. The stone houses hereabouts have been nearly all burned down, some of them in 1838 and some of them since, and their blackened ruins give an air of sadness to the scene. Of 159 prisoners taken here, 140 were examined and sentenced to death at Fort Henry by a court martial; forms of law there were none—no civil judge, no jury, no challenge. The victors doomed the vanquished to death or banishment. By the 26th of February, 1837, ten had been hanged on gibbets and two had died in the hospital. Most of the others were afterwards transported to the antipodes.

"Prescott. Value of Farms, etc. When I was a merchant at the head of Lake Ontario, 28 years since, it was a practice to cart merchandise from Montreal to Lachine, whence Messrs. Grant & Duff despatched it in bateaux, carrying five tons each, and manned by French-Canadians, up the St. Lawrence to Prescott, a village of 450 inhabitants, 110 miles above Montreal and 60 below Kingston, where it was stored and shipped in schooners of 70 or 100 tons to Burlington Bay. I have sometimes accompanied these boats up the whole of the rapids, camped out with their crews, partaken of their simple fare, and listened with great pleasure to their songs. Trade was good in those days, and more fortunes were made than now when there are ten times as many stores and 2,000 inhabitants. Kemptville, Merrickville, Smith's Falls and other places on the Rideau carry off the trade. Prescott contains several churches and plenty of taverns, located opposite the thriving village of Ogdensburg, and has a fertile well cleared country be-

hind it. Yet, it seemed dull and really is so. We passed through it at dusk, only stopping to feed the horses.

"Some idea of the effect produced on property by the indecisive course of affairs may be gathered from an advertisement of my old friend, W. B. Wells, formerly member for Grenville county, dated in August last, wherein he offers an estate of 230 acres of choice land, on the river, between Brockville and Prescott, a delightful spot, stone family mansion, farm houses, extensive barns, offices, outhouses, cider press, 25 acres of apples, plum and cherry orchards yielding thousands of bushels, for \$8,000.

"Brockville to Kingston—Brockville, the capital of Leeds county and Johnstown District, and the residence of Ogle R. Gowan, Esq., who organized the Orangemen of the colonies, is one of the most elegant villages in Canada. Its inhabitants are wealthy; many of the dwellings are of cut stone and very handsome; it stands upon the face of a hill gradually rising out of the St. Lawrence, opposite Morristown, N.Y., from which point of view its churches, stores and tastefully ornamented court house are seen to great advantage. It supports two newspapers, the proprietor of one of which, Wm. Buell, Esq., an unflinching friend of reform and improvement, is the oldest editor in Canada. The population is under 3,000, and among the I met with some of my oldest, most steadfast and trusty friends.

"We stopped at Mackenzie's Hotel and took a private carriage on Saturday, March 10, as far as Fairman's, 14 miles from Kingston, between which places, 36 years ago, there was not a solitary dwelling. Now the whole country from Brockville to Kingston is filled with clearings, farms, dwellings, hamlets, pastures, orchards, gristmills, sawmills, and other signs of civilization and progress. So far back even as 1831, Hon. John Macdonald, of Gananoque, ground at his mills in one season, 25,000 barrels of flour for the Montreal market. Of course less work is done now. A day or two before we passed through Gananoque, a woollen factory and nail making establishment that cost \$16,000, were burned, with no insurance. The village had