

THE
CANADIAN AGRICULTURIST

AND

Transactions

OF THE

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE OF UPPER CANADA.

VOL. V.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1853.

NO. 4.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY OF LAMBTON
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1852.

The Directors of the Lambton Agricultural Society for the past year beg to submit the following Report:—

The County of Lambton contains ten Townships—viz.: Bosaquet, Warwick, Plympton, Emiskillen, Brooke, Sarnia, Moore, Sombra, Euphemia, and Dawn—and contains about 11,000 inhabitants. It is bounded on the north by Lake Huron, and on the west by the River St. Clair. Both branches of the River Sydenham run through it. The River Aux Sables forms its north-eastern boundary for a considerable distance. On these rivers and their tributaries a number of both grist and saw-mills have been erected, and many important sites remain yet unimproved. However, it must be owned, that in mill privileges this County, as a whole, is very deficient. This deficiency, however, is being supplied by the erection of steam mills. At Port Sarnia, there is an excellent grist and saw mill propelled by steam; and in the Township of Moore a steam grist mill is in course of erection, and nearly completed.

This County is well situated in a commercial point of view—Bosaquet and Plympton are both bounded by Lake Huron; Sarnia is bounded on the north by the Lake, and on the west by the River St. Clair. Moore and Sombra are both bounded on the west by the St. Clair. Dawn has the River Sydenham running through it, which is navigable for a considerable distance. The route of the *Great Western Railroad* passes or touches the corner of Euphemia. The Railroad from London to Port Sarnia will pass through Warwick, Plympton, and Sarnia; and the *Toronto, Guelph, and Port Sarnia Railroad* will pass through Bosaquet, Warwick, Plympton, and Sarnia.

When these roads are completed, every part of the County will be within a reasonable distance of a railroad or navigable water, or both.

The River St. Clair, on the western border of this County, is one of the most majestic streams on the globe. Though, from some unknown causes, some seasons it is a few feet higher than others, it is not affected by the greatest freshets, and those living on its banks are thus free from one of the greatest annoyances to which persons who live on the banks of great rivers are usually exposed. Both the River and Lake are abundantly supplied with the finest varieties of fish, large quantities of which are annually caught and exported. The season of navigation usually commences in March, and frequently lasts till the end of December. All kinds of craft, from the Indian canoe to the magnificent steamboat, abound on the River, and a vast amount of business is usually done on its waters. The land on its margin, from Lake Huron to Lake St. Clair, is mostly of excellent quality, and for beauty of situation and convenience cannot probably be surpassed in the Province.

Port Sarnia, the capital of the County of Lambton, is a thriving village, containing nearly one thousand inhabitants. It is beautifully situated on the banks of the St. Clair, about two miles from its egress from Lake Huron. It has a spacious and excellent harbor, in which vessels can lie in perfect safety at all seasons of the year. Port Sarnia is not surpassed by any place west of Hamilton, either as a market for farmers' produce or a place at which imported goods can be purchased to advantage. A vast and continually increasing amount of business is annually done by its enterprising merchants.

The greater part of this County has been but recently settled. In some Townships more than one half of the land is still unoccupied. Almost, probably, every Township in this County has been greatly retarded in its progress by those curses to Canada—*land speculators*. Large blocks of land are obtained at a merely nominal price, and after being held till the labor of the industrious settler makes them valuable, they