

vidual sections, there are certain conditions belonging alike to the whole of the United Counties, and to such a brief reference will not be out of place by way of introduction. First among these is the

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION AND EXTENT

of the territory, which is situated on the north shore of Lake Ontario, about midway of its east and west expansion, and having a frontage thereon of sixty-three miles; the southern line is comparatively regular, but the northern is quite the reverse, the breadth of the territory ranging from fifteen to thirty miles—the boundary being, in great part, by the chain of lakes and rivers, having Lake Scugog for its western connection, and its eastern outlet the Bay of Quinte. The territory to the north being the Counties of Peterboro' and Victoria, while Hastings lies to the east. The area of this territory comprises 905,280 acres of land, of which 494,075 acres are in Northumberland, and 411,205 in Durham, the whole being exactly 1,414 $\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, the component parts of which are "one in many," forming the whole, consist of the Townships of Alnwick, Brighton, Cramahe, Haldimand, Hamilton, Monaghan (South), Murray, Percy and Seymour, the town of Cobourg, and the incorporated villages of Brighton, Campbellford, Colborne and Hastings, in the County of Northumberland, and the Townships of Cartwright, Cavan, Clarke, Darlington, Hope, and Manvers, the towns of Port Hope, and Bowmanville, and the incorporated villages of Millbrook and Newcastle, in the County of Durham—in all fifteen Townships, three towns and six incorporated villages, of which Millbrook, in Durham County, does not enter upon its independent Municipal existence till the New Year of 1880. In regard to the

TOPOGRAPHICAL CHARACTERISTICS,

of the United Counties, almost every condition and variety of soil and surface is presented, from the heaviest leda clays to the lightest superficial sand deposits, and from almost perfectly level expanses through all the stages of undulating and gently rolling, to the decidedly hilly and positively rough. The former conditions, both of soil and climate, apply more particularly to that tract more closely bordering the Ontario shore, while the latter are so scattered and diversified, both as to description and location, that no general explanation can define or place them. The territory is one of the most magnificently watered of any of equal extent in all this broad land, so widely and so justly celebrated for the beauty of its lakes and streams. Besides those connected with the chain previously mentioned, which form the chief part of its northern boundary, there are a very large number of spring-brooks and streams of lesser or greater volume, which run to the north and south from the "water shed" and empty in the larger system of waters forming the north boundary, or into the broad waters of Ontario. The chief of these latter, as well as of the whole, is "Smith's Creek," whose tributaries drain the greater part of the area of the Townships of Clarke and Hope, and whose waters mingle with those of Ontario at the town of Port Hope. On the many branches of this, as well as scores of others of lesser volume throughout the Counties, the very finest mill privileges abound, and the manner in which they have been utilized have tended most materially to the development and prosperity not only of this particular territory, but of the County at large. Before referring specifically to the