

these two days the human part of the Exhibition alone was worth going far to see.

It is undeniable that London is a fine point for a Provincial Exhibition. Not only do the number, intelligence, and wealth of the surrounding agricultural population secure a goodly display of animals and products, and a large concourse of visitors, but the city has many advantages from its central and accessible position, its disproportionately large amount of hotel accommodation, the hospitable disposition of its inhabitants, and the business energy of its leading men. London is especially worthy of honourable mention in connection with a Provincial Exhibition, as being itself a remarkable standing evidence of the rapid growth of a new country, and the certainty with which settlers in Canada thrive and prosper. On these heads we can speak from the record, having known London from an early period in its history. Our acquaintance with it stretches back to the year of the rebellion, 1837. It was then reached from Toronto and Hamilton by a stage-coach, that lumbered along through stumpy defiles, and over corduroy roads, and struggled through the horrid mud of the Grand River, and other dismal swamps. The journey from Toronto thither, now performed so easily and quickly on either of the two railroads, was, thirty years ago, a most formidable undertaking—a thing of peril and risk, a task for time and patience, requiring both nerve and muscle, moral courage and physical endurance. Stumps, corduroy, and mud held sway then in Dundas Street, now the principal business thoroughfare of London, and boasting as fine blocks of stores as any city in the Dominion. Thirty years ago the primeval forest hugged the city closely. Our first experiences with the axe, with logging, burning off, and putting in the first crop, were gained within five minutes walk of the present City Hall and Market. The fine names borrowed from London, the great seemed burlesque, and the fresh memory of the real Pall Mall, Covent Garden Market, Blackfriar's Bridge, &c., provoked a smile at the expense of the presuming settlers, who dared to picture a future for their infant city not unworthy the name and fame of its British prototype. But London the great has no reason now to be ashamed of London the less. The river

of the latter is but a babe compared with "Father Thames;" its area is only limited, its population is but small, its commerce is comprised within narrow bounds, and its edifices do not approach the palatial grandeur of the world's metropolis; yet, though the infant is not the giant's peer, it may have in it a germ of gigantic growth, which coming ages will develop. The Canadian London is as truly a marvel, when its age, of less than half a century, is taken into account, as the British London, which history tells us was a place of considerable importance as long ago as the reign of Nero,—half a century only after the birth of Christ.

London is beautifully situated on an elevated plateau, at the junction of the Northern and Eastern branches of the river Thames. Those who have never been fortunate enough to see it, will get some general idea of its appearance from the accompanying illustration. The view here given is of the western part of the city. The river Thames, the G. W. Railway Bridge, the Court House, the Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches are conspicuous objects in the picture, which, although it necessarily shows but a part of the city, will at once be recognized as a faithful representation of the locality by all who are acquainted with it.

The Exhibition grounds, buildings and appurtenances, were exceedingly pleasant, convenient, and suitable. The grounds are high, dry, and gently sloping toward a hollow in which an artificial sheet of water, Lake Horn, reposed, at once adding beauty to the scene, and furnishing an ample supply of the element necessary to the comfort of the stock, and the purposes of machinery exhibitors. The main Exhibition building is of white brick, and, therefore, more durable and permanent than the Crystal Palace of Toronto and Hamilton, which are built of wood and glass. We give herewith an engraving of the London building, from which it will be seen by strangers that it is a structure of respectable size, and of neat and tasteful architectural style. Ample accommodation was provided for stock; indeed, the pens and stalls were in excess of the demand. So far as we could judge, very complete and admirable arrangements were made, and we question if a Provincial Exhibition was ever held, in our