

the deficiency of natural harbors. This Lake is said to be filling up by the sediment from the rivers which flow into it. Its navigation is quite dangerous, as it is subject to sudden and violent storms.

One of the first settlements in this province was made on the Detroit river by a few French families, and their descendants bear a remarkable resemblance to the *habitans* of Lower Canada. The country is well cultivated and grows grain, grapes, peaches, nectarines, apples and pears. Sandwich and Amherstburg are on the bank of the river. Point Pelee is the southernmost point of Canada. Near Amherstburg and Point Pelee is an Indian settlement composed of Chippewas, Hurons, Munsees and Shawnees. PORT TALBOT, an extensive settlement made by Colonel Talbot in 1802, lies about half way between the Detroit and Niagara rivers. Long Point, a peninsula between the Grand River and Port Talbot is a fertile and thickly settled country. The land at the mouth of the Grand River is low and sickly, but the upper part of it flows through a country unsurpassed in healthfulness and fertility. The Counties of Middlesex and Oxford are thickly settled and well cultivated. A settlement of Indians was made on the Thames in the year 1792.

Guelph, situated on a branch of the Grand River, is one of the most flourishing towns settled by the Canada Company; Galt is also rapidly rising in importance. Canada West is one of the finest portions of America, and needs only cultivation to make it the garden of the world. The climate of the Gore, Huron and London Districts is remarkably salubrious and might almost challenge that of California.—Brantford is a stirring place, on the Grand river.

Near this place a fine tract of land was granted to the Six Nations in the year 1784. This tribe of Indians, as its name implies, was made up of six other tribes; viz: the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Senecas, Cayugas and Tuscaroras. The latter tribe joined the confederacy in 1714, previous to which time they were called the Five Nations, once they were the lords of the soil, but now only a few scattered fragments of them remain.

The Welland Canal is one of the many works of internal improvement for which Canada is noted. It issues from Lake Erie at Port Colborne and enters Lake Ontario at Port Dalhousie, thus affording a safe and speedy water communication between two of those great inland seas, and overcoming the great obstruction to navigation placed by nature at the Falls.

During the war of 1812 we were very unfortunate on Lake Erie, the British squadron carrying 63 guns being defeated by the American of 56, and had it not been for the determined loyalty of the Canadians, England must then have been deprived of this fine Province.

The first vessel that ever ploughed the waters of the great lakes, was built on the Niagara river in the year 1579; and having been dragged up into Lake Erie started westward under the direction of La Salle, whose purpose was to explore the Mississippi River and follow it to the sea. After traversing lakes Erie, St. Clair, Huron, and Michigan, they landed at Green Bay, and La Salle having given up the hope of getting his vessel into the Mississippi, loaded her with furs and sent her back to Niagara with a crew of six men, but nothing was ever after heard of them, and they are supposed to have found a mariners grave at the bottom of Lake Huron.

Near Grand Island is a smaller one called Navy Island, which was the stronghold of the self-styled Patriots in the late insurrection. Hundreds of misguided men flocked to the standard of Van Rensselaer here, and provisions were furnished them in abundance; and the insurgents having purloined some of the cannon belonging to the State of New York, mounted them and opened fire upon the Canadian Shore.—The steamer Caroline which had been used for transporting the munitions of war to the Island, was taken from her moorings by a party of loyalists under Capt. Drew, set on fire and carried down by the current over the Falls. The people of the United States were considerably incensed at this proceeding; but the sober second thought convinced them that it was not an unjustifiable act, but rather a military necessity. The malcontents evacuated the Island on the night of January 14th, 1838. An unimportant demonstration was also made against Kingston, but upon the approach of a band of Militia the Patriots thought it prudent to retire. The