

order of the Society, where the accounts transmitted might appear to justify it, produce in time a very complete account and system of these military Roman remains, as well as of other *municipia*, and perhaps *baths* and other vestiges of Roman magnificence. I beg pardon for the liberty I have taken of suggesting thus much, and for detaining you so long upon this subject; but I thought the explanation necessary to elucidate the occasion of the treatise transmitted from Major Rooke, and I also thought the subject not unworthy of the attention of the Society. It will give both Major Rooke and me great pleasure if they should be of the same opinion, or if they should think what has been offered in any degree deserving their notice. I am, with regard, Sir, your most obedient and humble servant, GEO. YONGE."

This communication to the Society of Antiquaries is dated "Stratford Place, May 7, 1788." After reading it, we can readily understand why the first organizer and Governor of Upper Canada, General Simcoe, should have attached the name of Sir George Yonge to the great military road cast up and hewn out by him, in 1793, through the primitive woods from Lake Ontario to Lake Huron. It was not simply as a compliment to the Secretary at War of the day, but it was also something to give special gratification to a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries who had made himself, by his observation and research, an authority on Roman roads. The application, too, of the term "Street" to the two great original highways opened up within the new province, and intersecting each other at right angles in the heart of its capital town, is thus explained. It was to follow the example of the old Roman colonizers, who wisely made it an essential part of their system to establish at once, throughout the length and breadth of each region occupied, a public way, well constructed, and usually paved with blocks of stone—hence called a *via strata*—vernacularized into *Street* by our Saxon forefathers. Thus we have Watling Street, a Roman road leading from Richborough to Canterbury and London; Ickneild Street, a Roman road leading from Tynemouth through York, Derby, and Birmingham to St. David's; Ermin Street, leading from Southampton, also to St. David's. Whilst Ardwick-le-Street in Yorkshire, Chester-le-Street in Durham, Stretton, Stratton, Streatham, and several places called Stretford and Stratford, all imply that they were each of them situated on the line of some old Roman street or road.