

ability, has set down the impressions he received from a visit to Brockville as early as the summer of 1848, with his adventures in ascending the river from Montreal on a former occasion.

Trusting you will be able to give space in your valuable paper for the reproduction of interesting recollection of some one who "knew a good thing when he saw it."

Yours historically,

H. I. O.

The writer expresses himself thus :

"About fifty miles from the head of the St. Lawrence stands Brockville. To every Canadian, and indeed to every Englishman, this town, though far from being the most important in size and population in our province, cannot fail to be an object of interest. The association with the memory of him who died in the arms of victory on the Heights of Queenston, whilst it adds a feature to its attractions, renders it an enduring monument of his fame—a monument which will last whilst its stone-built streets endure, and may in some measure make amends for the apathy with which a nation looks on the once graceful but now ruined column that marks the spot where her hero's blood was spilt.

But, apart from the memories of mingled pride and regret which its name may call up, Brockville possesses many charms.

In a downward journey on the bosom of the magnificent St. Lawrence—which may now be made with safety in a commodious steamer and surrounded with comfort and even luxury—before arriving at the subject of our present notice, the traveller passes amidst the far-famed Thousand Islands, which bear the appearance of having sprung from the depths of the mighty stream expressly to be the abode of the spirits of its waters. Amid their picturesque mazes, man feels himself an intruder, and as the moving mass he treads bears him safely among the labyrinth of rocks, he may fancy himself transported by genii through some region of fairyland; or, without yielding to the powers of imagination, he cannot forbear contemplating alike the extraordinary results of human skill, and the wonders of nature's own creation, thus brought together for his

use and admiration, in the self-impelled ark which he inhabits, and in the beautiful scenery which surrounds him.

Our illustration—though we trust our readers will not deny to the artist his due meed of praise—gives but a very imperfect view of the town. After passing through scenes whose claims to admiration, though great, are altogether their natural beauties, the eye rests pleasantly on the stone walls of Brockville. The court house and the church on the eminence above the town, are the chief objects which attract attention. The latter is seen in our artist's sketch, but the court house, though visible from the deck of the steamer, cannot be distinguished. The well executed wood cut, (to be found on the last page of the book), however, which we subjoin, gives a faithful representation of this commodious and handsome structure, the commanding site on which it stands, and the broad avenue through which it is approached.

The view which forms our vignette is taken from the level of the site of the lower part of the town, and comprises only that part of it adjacent to the wharves, consisting chiefly of warehouses. From other points, however, the town presents a much more favorable aspect. Opposite to the wharves is what forms a pretty object in our picture—a small fort or block-house, in which a few troops are usually stationed. If we land and proceed through the principal streets, we are agreeably surprised at the features presented, so different from those that mark the generality of towns in this newly peopled part of the world. Instead of the glaring and perishable attractions of framework, and those characteristics which indicate the rapidity, herewith the cities of this continent, as if evoked by magic from the vast wilderness, leap into existence, and the primeval forest is replaced by busy haunts of men, Brockville affords an appearance of solidity grateful to the eye of the "Old Country man," and of substantial and unostentatious comfort. Its handsome houses of stone, with cut-stone fronts, and its public buildings of the same massive material, give to the streets an air of wealth and importance which other Canadian towns of the same size and pop-