



Historical Sketch of Ottawa . .

BY JOHN THORBURN, LL.D.

OTTAWA has been called "The Washington of the North," and in some respects the designation is not altogether inappropriate. It is within the recollection of some of us that, when Washington was spoken of, it was not unfrequently styled a city of "Magnificent distances." This is no longer the case. It is now a beautiful city, with magnificent public and private buildings lining its avenues and streets, of which the Americans are justly proud. When our Canadian Government takes the same interest in Ottawa that the American Government takes, and has for many years taken, in their Capital, our Northern one will rival if it does not surpass Washington.

A visitor to this City from Boston, Mass., in a communication to "The American Canadian," says: "Naturally a comparison with Washington, the rival Anglo-American metropolis, is one of the first processes in the mind of the traveller. No resident of the United States needs to be ashamed of the Citadel of his nation. It possesses an accumulated wealth, both intellectual and material, which time alone can bring, but the youthful Ottawa of our beautiful Canada must claim greater