

the British Isles than on the neighbouring continent of Europe. The Great Lakes have the same sort of effect on the climate of the country surrounding them. In the city of Ottawa, beyond their influence, the average temperature, taking summer and winter together, is 38° F. in the city of Toronto, on Lake Ontario, it is 44° F., or more than six degrees higher. It is still more interesting to notice, when we look into the details, that while the lake modifies the winter cold, giving Toronto an average temperature ten degrees higher than Ottawa's, it also modifies the heat, for Toronto, though much farther south, actually has a summer temperature a little lower than that of Ottawa.



A steamer on Lake Ontario.

The shore of Lake Ontario, the easternmost of the Great Lakes, was colonized very early in the history of Canada under the British flag. It was originally settled by the United Empire Loyalists, who, when their cause was defeated in the thirteen British Colonies south of Canada, were compelled—even if they had wished to remain—to leave their

The First Settlers.

lands and property and begin life anew in exile. Many of the Loyalists received from the British Government plots of land along the Canadian shore of Lake Ontario, and you will still find their descendants farming where their exiled ancestors started to clear away the forest nearly 130 years ago. They certainly had a hard enough struggle at first; a pioneer life in a thickly wooded land, before the days of railways and steamships and telegraphs and telephones—necessarily called for strenuous toil and patient endurance.

If the people who leave the Old Country for Ontario to-day think they are going to find nature "in the rough" and to have the herculean task of making it smooth,—like the "Settlers in Canada" in Captain Marryat's story, who are described as taking up land on the north shore of Lake Ontario close to Kingston,—well, they can make their minds easy. The fact is, the pioneer work was done for them long ago by those old Loyalists and the British immigrants who settled among them and their descendants in the early part of the last

**A
Civilized
Land.**