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GRIMSBY, BEAMSVILLE AND DISTRICT.



The Centre of the Famed Fruit Producing Niagara Peninsula.



THAT portion of the Niagara Peninsula known as the Grimsby District extends for a distance of about twenty miles east and west, from about Stoney Creek, Ont., to Beamsville, Ont. It embraces the very finest section of all Canada, and from the different points in the district are shipped annually more than 1800 car loads of fruit. In order to bring the statement home to the consumer and to show just what a tremendous supply of fruit eighteen hundred car loads is, let it be known that a car load of fruit on the average weighs about ten tons. Eighteen hundred cars of ten tons each will weigh reduced to pounds exactly thirty-six million pounds. This is made up of peaches, pears, plums, apples, cherries, grapes and the various kinds of berries. It mostly goes to points in Canada, although shipments to British and European markets have reached a creditable standing considering the difficulties under which such shipments had to be made. While the fruit producing business is the main industry in this district, mixed farming is also very successful. On top of the mountain this feature combined with the dairying interest makes many men rich. The Grimsby district is inhabited by a class of people who will collectively and individually compare more than favorably with any one section of the Dominion. Prosperity is positively the rule, and it may be said to be the general state of all the people. All along the line of the Hamilton, Grimsby and Beamsville Electric Railway, which runs through the very heart of the country, there may be seen palatial homes and a lavish display of comfort. The society of the district is in no way isolated or inferior. Schools and churches are everywhere and the ordinary amenities of life are in no degree restricted. The district has a history. Stoney Creek, its western terminus, is the name given to that heroic engagement and British victory during the war of 1812, which resulted in driving the invader from the upper or western end

of the peninsula back upon his base near Niagara Falls, thus ridding this part of Canada of military enemies for a century, and let us hope forever. Leaving Stoney Creek, going eastward the traveller passes through Winona and eighteen miles east from Hamilton alights at Grimsby. Grimsby is a name to conjure with. It is here that the widely known Grimsby Park is located. The village is beautifully situated at the base of Grimsby Mountain, which towers above to a distance of about 300 feet, while to the northward but three-quarters of a mile is the southern shore of Lake Ontario. Grimsby Mountain is a bold and precipitous peak which towers sheer up from the plain for hundreds of feet. The point is reached by an easy path which winds round the mountain at an ascending grade so gradual as to render the walk up, albeit somewhat lengthy, yet a real pleasure. The constantly changing view of ravine landscape is so charming that fatigue is farthest from the climber's thoughts. At the top the level plateau is covered with a heavy growth of pine and cedar, through which a wide and well worn avenue leads to the point. Mt. Thom, near Springfield, Massachusetts, Mt. Lookout, at Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Mt. Royal, at Montreal, Quebec, alone, so far as the experience of the writer goes, can compare with the mountain at Grimsby point as an outlook to "view the landscape o'er." Within a mile roll the majestic waters of Lake Ontario as blue as the sky above, showing an expanse due north of about forty miles, and east and west farther than the best glass can penetrate. Looking from the point eastward such a panorama of farms, orchards and vineyards is presented that the visitor exclaims in adjectives innumerable his or her boundless admiration, and at a near view, down at the mountain base the village literally embowered in foliage. A few particulars will enable the reader to grasp the wonderful qualities of this mountain peak for view purposes, better perhaps than any

GRIMSBY PARK.