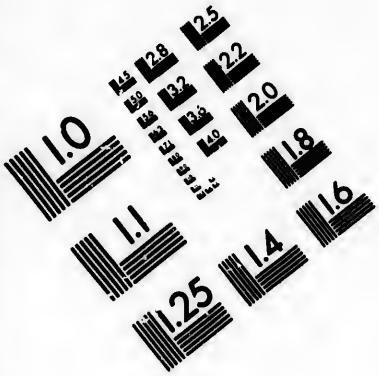

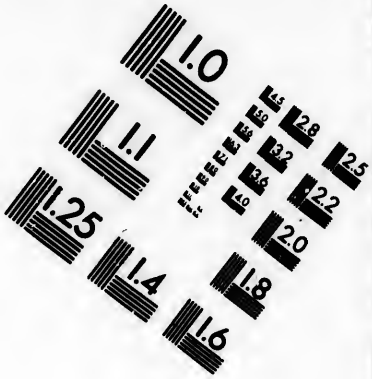

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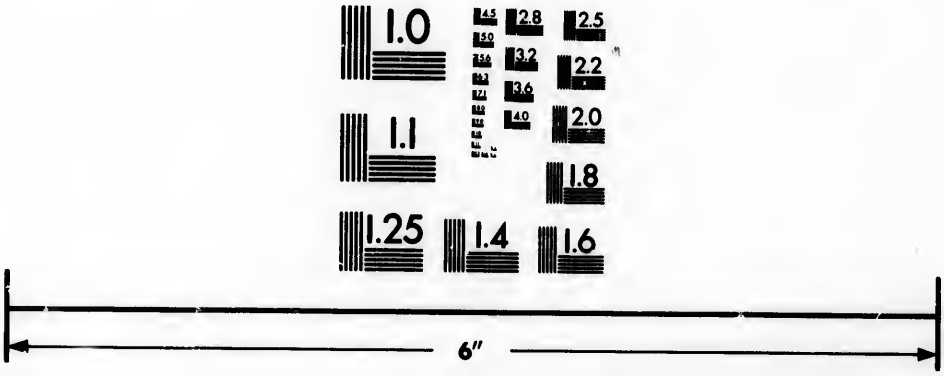

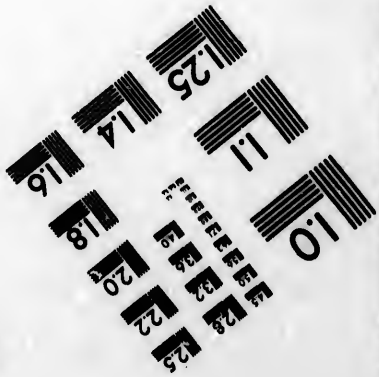

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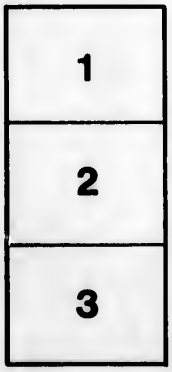

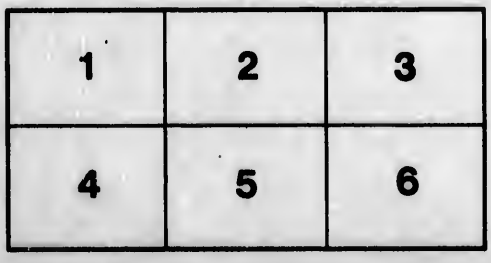

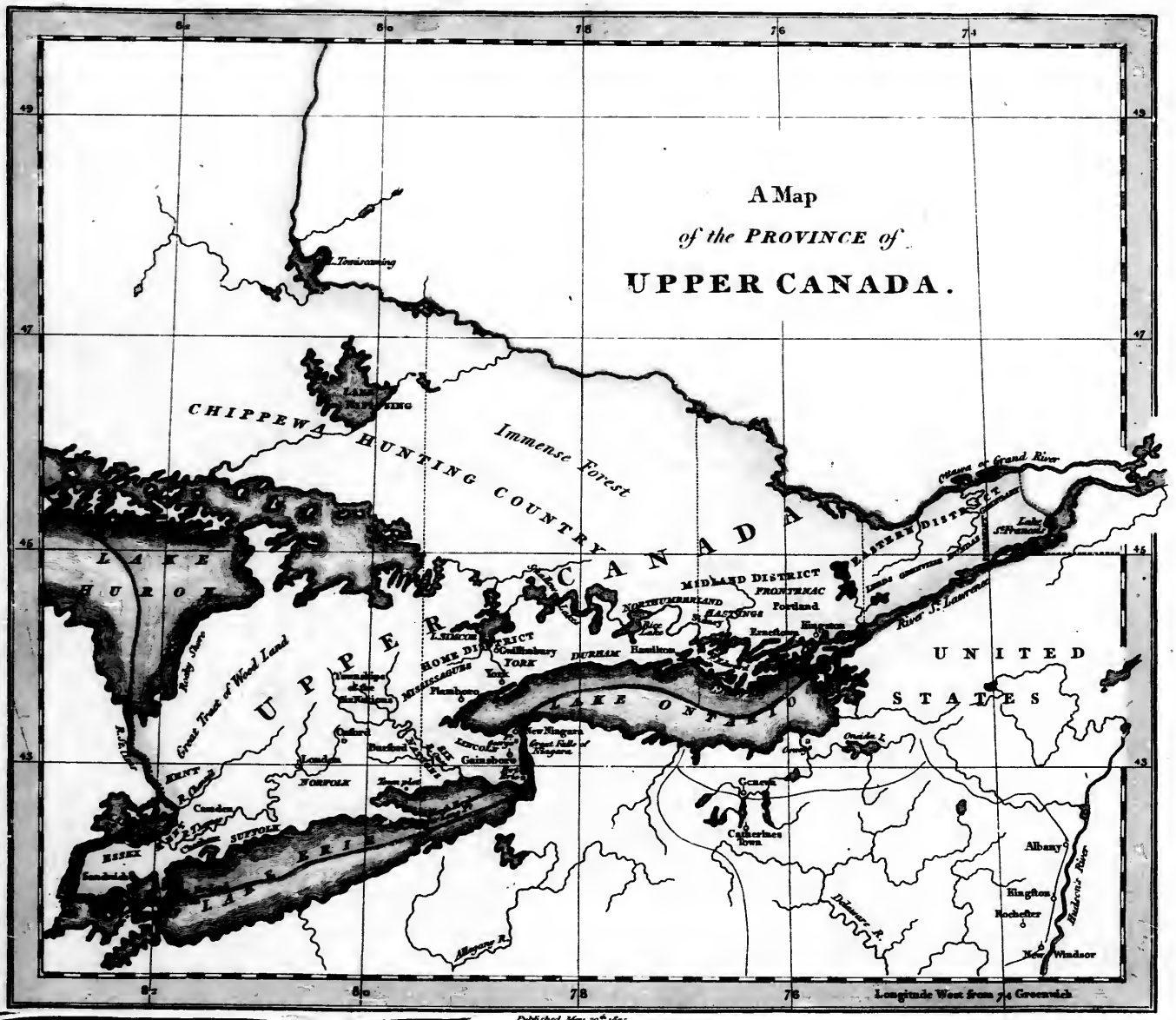

Published May 20th 1801.

SKETCH

OF HIS MAJESTY'S PROVINCE

OF

UPPER CANADA.

BY

D'ARCY BOULTON,

BARRISTER AT LAW.

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1805.

TO

THE KING.

SIR,

I Presume to lay before you a short history of a country which, if the abilities of the writer were equal to the importance of the subject, would not be unworthy of the attention of your Majesty.

Few parts, perhaps, of your Majesty's dominions are more deserving of notice than Upper Canada. It presents a country capable of producing the greatest abundance of grain of every description, and in truth it has already afforded ample proof of its ability in that respect. In timber it is excelled by no nation on earth. It requires nothing but a continuation of your Majesty's parental care to render it opulent in itself, highly valuable to the world at large, and more especially so to your Majesty's dominions.

It has been the happiness of this country to have felt the influence of your Majesty's protecting care and goodness, and to have lived under the dominion of a Prince who never ceases to evince his delight in promoting the public welfare.

I am,

SIR,

With the most loyal attachment,

Your Majesty's faithful subject,

And dutiful servant,

D'ARCY BOULTON.

THE PREFACE.

IT must be admitted, that no period in the history of our own country can be considered as uninteresting; nor is the interest much less, which attaches to transactions relating to distant provinces, under its immediate government. Such circumstances as tend to illustrate the progress of civilization and manners in such places, merit our attention in no small degree. To enter into remote or very minute events is beyond the compass of my present design, in truth not within the bounds of a small publication: it is, however, my intention to gratify my readers with a circumstantial detail of every circumstance within the compass of my enquiry, the investigation of which can be supposed to afford

afford entertainment. Of distant events a general notice must suffice, nor will any thing be mentioned in detail, till I come to that period in which Great Britain became immediately connected with Canada. The universal progress of science during the latter ages, arising in a great measure from the art of printing, though in some degree from other causes, has filled the world with such a multiplicity of histories, that the period of human life is too short for the perusal of them. That I may not add materially to this evil, I shall endeavour to be as laconic as possible, confining myself rather to useful information, than the investigation of more curious transactions. As the Canadas are so nearly connected with, and adjacent to the United States, and the relative situations of the two countries so analogous, I am the more impelled to compare them, by which means I may enable future emigrants to form an opinion of the

intrinsic

intrinsic value and more immediate local advantage of each situation. At the same time, I shall studiously avoid all investigation of political points, with which the present publication is not designed to have any kind of interference.

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CHAP. I.

GENERAL VIEW OF THE COUNTRY.

THE circumstance of the conquest of Canada from the French, in the year 1759, is so recent, and appears so frequently to have been represented to the public, that to dwell on that period would be an useless consumption of time, both to the writer and the reader. Neither would it be of consequence to represent the situation of Canada, from that period to the thirty-first year of his present Majesty's reign, being the epoch of the new Constitution of Upper Canada, divided from the lower province. To a certain extent that province is governed by the French laws, varying only as the statutes of Great Britain and the local ordinances of that province have

 pre-

prescribed. The principal information contained in this work will be drawn either from the personal observation of the author, or from authority on which he could fully rely. He has not the vanity to think that he can bring to light circumstances which others have not had penetration to discern, but he aspires to the merit of compiling a work which may be of the greatest service to future emigrants from Europe; by pointing out to them the evident advantages of this country, when compared to any part of the United States. The author has visited most parts of the United States, from Pensylvania to the Penobscot River, approaching towards Halifax in Nova Scotia: he has travelled through the interior of this immense country, and under circumstances the most advantageous for procuring local information. These countries have been described by many authors, and many of those writers have had their private reasons for extolling each particular state or country in the Union. I am far from wishing to accuse such narratives of falsehood; but I may be fully credited when I suggest, that an account of any country from a dispassionate traveller may with greater propriety be relied on, than a statement of facts embellished by partiality or interest. An author who has, or may have, immense tracts of wild land which he cannot but wish to have settled, cannot write without some bias on his mind. I should be wanting in candour and justice, if I did not acknowledge, that these countries, which I have had the satisfaction to explore, afford the purest gratification

cation to a traveller: and when he reflects "that, only the other day, the whole was a howling wilderness, travelled only by savages," his mind is forcibly struck, and he cannot resist admiring the wonderful change. In reflecting on this subject, he is imperceptibly led into thoughts that are at once interesting and sublime.

But though I readily confess that the Continent at large forms a majestic subject of contemplation, and must very strongly impress the mind of every man, who is capable of admiring the great works of nature, still I must contend that no dispassionate observer can pronounce the United States (I mean to embrace only the Middle and Northern States of the Union), to excel, in any point of view, the province of Upper Canada. It is well known that in the latter country more certain, greater, and heavier crops are raiſed, on the ſame quantity of land, than in any of the Northern or Midland States of the Union; the land in general is stronger. I am well acquainted with almost every part of the State of New York, in its extent from North to South, about three hundred miles; and it is a very fine country beyond question, but, with an exception of the Genesee country, I think much inferior to the Upper Province. The laws of the State of New York vary in a very trifling degree from thoſe of England, the statute laws excepted, which may of courſe be deemed, for the most part, local laws. The police of the country varies also

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in a very small degree; the difference, in short, between the State of New York and Great Britain, in thefe respects, is not perceptible to Europeans in general. The province of Upper Canada adjoins to York State, being divided in part by the majestic river St. Lawrence.

Europeans who quit their native soil for the western world, should, before they leave their home, weigh maturely the cause of their departure. If politics form a part of their reason, I should wish them to make choice of the United States, not as preferable in themselves, or because that government will better please them; but because discontented or disappointed politicians would not suit the province I have undertaken to describe. I shall presume, however, the object of an emigrant to be to remove to a spot where he can, with greater ease, maintain a rising family, and increase a small capital. Such a settler will find Upper Canada well suited to his purpose. English people, untainted by political speculations, are naturally attached to their own constitution. I confess, for my own part, that when I first crossed the St. Lawrence, and set my foot on British ground, after residing in the American States, I perceived sensations that were unexpected even to myself. I seemed at once to step home. I need not describe my feelings on this occasion; a true Englishman can well imagine them, and with respect to those that are not so, I am perfectly indifferent.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

ON THE PRODUCE AND VALUE OF LAND.

To return to the province of Upper Canada. An honest man, with industry, may live there in greater ease, and with less labour, than in any part of the continent with which I am acquainted. The land is productive, to a degree almost unexampled; the soil is not indeed excelled by that of any country; and though it is almost impossible to reckon upon an average produce of wheat, per acre, arising from causes which do not influence crops in England, still it may be expected that some account should be given. Thirty bushels of wheat, per acre, is reckoned a good crop; but I have known fifty-five. Forty bushels of Indian corn is called a good crop; but still eighty and even ninety have been produced. Pease succeed in a very great degree in most parts of the province. The weight of the wheat also exceeds that in the United States; and I am told, that wheat here has weighed seventy pounds per bushel. One more advantage, and that of great importance, demands attention,

attention, namely, the price of land. Dollars are the most common coin in this country, and as it will frequently be necessary to mention the prices of things, I shall employ that coin in my general account. Land is, of course, worth more or less in proportion to its situation and goodness; but poor land is very rare; and I shall therefore, in general, wish to be understood as speaking of good land. In the parts of the country that are most thickly settled, land can scarcely be said to bear any regular price, as the oldest settlers seldom dispose of their property: in the remoter parts, the value is governed in a great measure by the number of inhabitants. Speaking however in a general way, I will endeavour to throw out such observations as will enable the reader to form a tolerable opinion of the common value. The country, in general, is settled to a very different extent: in some places, six or eight miles back, in others forty or fifty. Nor does the distance from the river St. Lawrence determine the value; for, in many instances, land produces a greater price at the distance of forty miles than at five. Many of the back settlements are well inhabited, and are as near to a market for their superfluous produce as those on the river. Land also produces a price proportioned to the terms of payment. Wild lands, that is, lands in a state of nature, have been sold as low as a quarter of a dollar per acre, for prompt payment; and much has been sold from that price to half a dollar per acre. In other situations, similar lands have produced from

one

one dollar to two; but such prices in money are rare, and can only be obtained where a person happens to be settled in the neighbourhood, and to own adjoining land. But a new settler, or a person desirous of making a purchase, can always do it to great advantage, if he can command money.

The lands are usually divided into lots of two hundred acres each, forming a complete farm; that quantity of land being fully sufficient for any one farmer. Much land in this country is purchased with no other view than to sell again, a traffic concerning which I do not feel competent to decide, whether it should be considered as advantageous to the country or not. In many instances it has a good tendency, in others the reverse. Thousands of poor people come into this country to settle, without being able to advance money, not being possessed of any capital. A person so circumstanced is of course constrained to purchase on credit, which he does to great disadvantage, unless he happen to deal with a man of peculiar honesty. The terms usually are, to pay the purchase-money by instalments, sometimes embracing a period of four or five years. In such cases, the vendor usually gives the purchaser a bond, with condition to give a deed of conveyance at a certain period, provided the purchaser shall fulfil his several payments. Sometimes, in case of non-performance of these payments, the obligee in the bond avails himself of his advantage, and takes back the land with four or five years improvement upon it, and resells to

a fresh

a fresh purchaser to a great profit. In truth, any person capable of advancing money may purchase very low, and sell at an advance of one, or even two hundred per cent. profit, payable by instalments. This system affords an excessive advantage to the monied man, who takes security of the purchaser for the purchase-money, with interest, which at once affords him an immoderate advance.

The plan I here state is daily followed; and I can instance cases where people have actually improved their interest, in the course of seven years, more than one thousand per cent. The local situation of Upper Canada is such, that it will ever be the most thriving country in America. The Americans are perpetually removing into this province, which produces a regular system of trade in that way. I could instance some few cases where persons have purchased land for ten or twelve dollars a lot (of two hundred acres), who, in the course of twelve or fourteen years, have refused three hundred pounds for the same land. This may be termed land speculation; but however obnoxious the system may be to some minds, it does, and ever will prevail, in this country; and, upon the whole, I am much inclined to think, that it is a beneficial traffic for the country. The bulk of the inhabitants are Americans, whose natural turn of mind leads to variety; for which reason, they no sooner improve a new farm than they are desirous of selling it. No set of men on earth, perhaps, are so competent

as

as Americans to engage in the difficulties of a new country; and Europeans, unacquainted with such a course of life, will find it better policy to purchase small improvements than to engage in such difficulties. I know of no method by which a capital can be improved to so great advantage as by adopting this system; but it requires some knowledge of the country before a person can form a just opinion either of the situation or value of lands. It may appear almost necessary to say what sort of persons, under these circumstances, can become purchasers. But my reply will be very general:—almost any one. If a man has great industry, and a family sufficiently advanced to aid, instead of encumbering him, he can, without any money, make a purchase of a single lot of two hundred acres; and, to use a common expression, make the land pay for itself, that is, from its own produce. If a farmer has three or four boys old enough to help him, they can easily clear twenty acres of new land; and, if they have ordinary luck, the first crop will yield five hundred bushels of good wheat; which, if the market price is a dollar, will produce one hundred and twenty-five pounds currency, that is, double the value of the land. Many persons have become purchasers of land, with no other view than that of selling on credit for large profit. Many hundreds indeed there are in this country who own from eight hundred to two thousand acres, yet began without any capital. I could enumerate many instances of individuals having maintained their families, and, in the course of seven years,

 collected

collected from six to twelve hundred acres of land. True it is, that this cannot at present be called a large property; but, when a parent can reflect, that he has secured for each of his family after him a comfortable farm, how satisfied must such a one feel. It has not been the lot of every one to be forced to these reflections: happy are they who have no necessity for them; but much more happy they who by their industry have rendered themselves independent, and their families after them.

In Upper Canada, no man of moderate desires feels anxious about the future success of his family. In the country, which is chiefly inhabited, every man feels the increase of his family an increase of his riches; and no one doubts about the facility of providing for his children as comfortably as they have been accustomed to live. This security is naturally felt where land is so cheap and fertile, where society is so much on an equality, and where the prodigious increase of population, from natural and accidental causes, and the improving state of the country, furnish a market for any quantity of superfluous produce, without presenting incessantly that temptation to artificial expence and extravagant competition, too common in old countries. Nor do I wish the expression "artificial expence" to be construed as excluding reasonable amusements. Throughout America, the middle classes, who compose the greater number, enjoy a full proportion

portion of amusements. Scarcely is there a farmer who does not own a pair of horses and a sleigh, or sledge, which he employs usually, a part of the winter at least, in visiting his distant friends. Travelling here is so habitual, that a farmer and his wife think it nothing extraordinary to make an excursion of six or seven hundred miles in the winter to see their friends; neither does such a trip incur much expence; for they usually carry with them, in their sleigh, provisions for their journey, as well as grain for the horses. This may be considered as a great amusement, affording the most lively satisfaction, and forming the mind with redoubled vigour to undertake the fatigues of the following year. In point of health, I should be wanting in gratitude not to express my most hearty approbation of the climate of this country. I prefer it to any within the compass of my experience, for salubrity as well as pleasure. We hear indeed of lake fevers, but they are but little known; in truth, I believe they originate in general from indiscretion. In the warm season of the year the working people are very apt to overheat themselves, and drink profusely of water, probably sometimes stagnant water; such imprudence would produce a similar effect in any country.

CHAP. III.

ADVANTAGES OF THE TRAFFIC.

THOUGH I am of opinion, that large capitals might be invested in this country to a certain and great profit, and instant accruing, though not payment, of interest, still such investment could not take place without some confidential agent on the spot. The mercantile part of the country have concerns enough of their own, and it is difficult to find other persons who have leisure to attend to such business. It should however be observed, that no one engaging a capital in that branch can expect to have a return of it very speedily; probably it will require four or five years; for few purchasers make good their several payments in less time, though the interest on the sale commences immediately. The mind of the reader will naturally be struck with this extraordinary relation; true however it is, and I am within bounds in my description. I will, however, satisfy him, both as to the cause and effect. In all new countries money is a scarce commodity, and the scantiness of

that

that article is generally proportioned to the newness of the settlement. These circumstances occur here with their usual force. People of large property seldom settle in new countries; and they who do, usually expend their all in the great object they have in view. The bulk of new settlers, however, have nothing but their implements of agriculture or trade; and are, as it were, constrained to incur some debt on their first landing. This keeps them in arrear, and money thence becomes of undue value among them, which gives too great an advantage to the monied man; though some there are who despise the idea of taking the advantage. The little money brought in by the generality of settlers is expended in the advancement of their farms, which cannot return in form of specie until they have paid for their land; which payments are usually made in produce, say wheat, pease, corn, pork, and cattle. The effect evidently is, that money is always scarce, and consequently fetches more than it is intrinsically worth. It is not, however, sufficient to have stated the fineness of this country, to give it a preference to the lands in the United States. I must point out the grounds of preference, for the substantial accuracy of which I will answer. The proprietors of lands in Canada have come into the possession of them at a much less expence than the Americans: the great mass of land has been given by his Majesty's patent, free of expence, to officers, old soldiers, loyalists, and others. This has placed the property in hands capable of selling as low as possible; and too well it

is

is known, that three fourths of his Majesty's bounty has been lavishly thrown away, under a variety of impressions. Some sold because they were in distress, and thought this was their only relief; others have sold under a persuasion that the country would never be settled, and that they would therefore by selling secure something. Perhaps in the course of human affairs a greater instance of rapid improvement never was exhibited than in the instance of Upper Canada. I shall now desist from general observations, and confine myself to a particular account of the country, taking my departure from that part of the upper province which adjoins to the lower.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF UPPER CANADA.

THE old province of Quebec was divided into two provinces, distinguished by the names of Upper and Lower Canada, by an Act of Parliament passed in the thirty-first year of his Majesty's reign. The line of division commences at a stone boundary on the north bank of lake St. Francis, at the cove west of *Point au Bo..l*, in the limit between the township of Lancaster, and the seigniory of *New Longueil;* running in the direction of north thirty-four degrees west, to the westernmost angle of the said seignory of *New Longueil:* then along the north-western boundary of the seignory of *Vaudreuil*, running north twenty-five degrees east, until it strikes the Ottawas river. It ascends that river, into the lake Tomiscanning, and from the head of said lake proceeds by a line drawn due north, until it strikes the boundary line of Hudson's Bay; including all the territory to the westward

and

and southward of the said line, to the utmost extent of th country distinguished by the name of Canada.

The province of Upper Canada is bounded to the eastward by the United States of America: that is, by a line from the forty-fifth degree of north latitude, along the middle of the river Iroquois or Cataraqui, into lake Ontario: through the middle of this likewise, until it strikes the communication by water between that lake and lake Erie; thence along the middle of the communication into lake Erie, through the middle of that lake, until it arrives at the water communication between it and lake Huron; thence again through the middle of lake Huron, to the water communication between it and lake Superior; thence through lake Superior northward, to the isles Royale and Philipeaux, to the long lake, and the water communication between it and the lake of the woods; thence through that lake to the most north-western point thereof, and from thence in a due west line to the river Mississippi. To the westward, and to the northward, west of the Mississippi, its boundaries are indefinite, the northern limits of Louisiana not being thoroughly known. To the northward it is bounded by Hudson's Bay, as settled by the treaty of Utrecht, in the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, extending west indefinitely. The province is divided into eight districts. 1. The eastern district, embracing the counties of Glengary, Stormont, Dundas, Prescot, and Russell. 2. District

trict of Johnstown, embracing the counties of Grenville, Leeds, and Carleton. 3. The midland district; embracing the counties of Frontenac, the incorporated counties of Lenox and Addington, Hastings, and Prince Edward; with all that tract of country which lies between the district of Johnstown, and a line drawn north sixteen degrees west from the north-west angle of the township of Rawdon, until it intersects the northern limits of the province: together with all the islands in the Ottawas river, wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 4. The district of Newcastle, embracing the counties of Northumberland and Durham, with all the land behind them, confined between their extreme boundaries, produced north sixteen degrees west, until they intersect the northern limits of the province. 5. The home district, comprehending the counties of York and Simcoe. 6. The district of Niagara, embracing the counties of Lincoln and Haldimand, with such of the islands lying in the river Niagara or lake Erie as are wholly or in greater part adjacent thereto; together with the beach at the head of lake Ontario, between the outlet of Burlington Bay, and the township of Saltfleet, together with the promontory between Burlington Bay and Coote's Paradise. 7. The district of London; comprehending the counties of Norfolk, Oxford, and Middlesex, with so much of the province as lies to the westward of the home district, and the district of Niagara, to the southward of lake Huron, and between them and a line drawn due

 north,

north, from a fixed boundary (where the easternmost limit of the township of Oxford intersects the river Thames) till it arrives at lake Huron. 8. The western district; comprehending the counties of Essex and Kent, together with so much of the province as is not included within any other district thereof. These districts are divided into twenty-three counties; namely, Glengary, Stormont, Prescott, Russell, Dundas, Grenville, Leeds, Carleton, Frontenac, incorporated counties of Lenox and Addington, Hastings, Prince Edward, Northumberland, Durham, York (consisting of two ridings), Simcoe, Lincoln (consisting of four ridings), Haldimand, Norfolk, Oxford, Middlesex, Kent, and Essex. 1. The county of Glengary is formed of the townships of Lancaster, Charlottenburgh, and Kenyon, together with the tract of land claimed by the St. Regis Indians, and such of the islands in the river St. Laurence as are wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 2. The county of Stormont is formed of the townships of Cornwall, Osnaburgh, Finch, and Roxburgh, together with such of the islands in the river St. Laurence as are wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 3. The county of Dundas is formed of the townships of Williamsburgh, Matilda, Mountain, and Winchester, with such of the islands in the river St. Laurence as are wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 4. The county of Prescott is formed of the townships of Hawkesbury, Lononeuil (with the tract of land in its rear), Alfred, and Plantagenet;

tagenet; with such of the islands in the Ottawas river as are wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 5. The county of Russell is formed of the townships of Clarence, Cumberland, Gloucester, Osgood, Russell, and Cambridge, with such of the islands in the river Ottawas as are wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 6. The county of Grenville comprehends the townships of Edwardsburgh, Augusta, Wolford, Oxford on the Rideau, Marlborough, Montague, and Gower, called North and South Gower, together with such of the islands in the River St. Laurence as are wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 7. The county of Leeds comprehends the townships of Elizabeth Town, Yonge (including what was formerly called Escott), Lansdown, Leeds, Crosby, Bastard, Burgess, Elmsley, and Kitley, together with such of the islands in the river St. Laurence as are wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 8. The county of Carleton comprehends the township of Nepean, with the tract of land to be hereafter laid out into townships between Nepean, and a line drawn north sixteen degrees west from the north-west angle of the township of Crosby, until it intersects the Ottawas river, with such of the islands in the river Ottawas as are wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 9. The county of Frontenac comprehends the townships of Pitsburgh, Kingston, Loughborough, Portland, Hinchinbrook, Bedford, and Wolfe Island. 10. The incorporated counties of Lenox and Addington comprehend the townships of Ernest Town,

 Fredericksburgh,

Fredericksburgh, Adolphus Town, Richmond, Camden (distinguished by Camden East), Amherst Island, and Sheffield. 11. The county of Hastings comprehends the townships of Sidney, Thurlow, the tract of land occupied by the Mohawks, Hungerford, Huntingdon, and Rawdon. 12. The county of Prince Edward comprehends the townships of Ameliasburgh, Hallowell, Sophiasburgh, and Marysburgh, with such of the islands in the bay of Quintè and lake Ontario, as are wholly or in greater part opposite thereto, and such as were not formerly included in the county of Ontario. 13. The county of Northumberland comprehends the townships of Murray, Cramahe, Haldimand, Hamilton, Alnwick, Percy, and Seymour, with the peninsula of Newcastle. 14. The county of Durham comprehends the townships of Hope, Clarke, and Darlington, with all the tract of land hereafter to be laid out into townships, which lies to the southward of the small lakes above the Rice lake, and the communication between them and between the eastern boundary of the township of Hope, and the western boundary of the township of Darlington, produced north sixteen degrees west, until they intersect either of the said lakes, or the communication between them. 15. The county of York, as before mentioned, has two ridings; the East Riding comprehends the townships of Whitby, Pickering, Scarborough, York, including its peninsula, Etobicocke, Markham, Vaughan, King, Whitchurch, Uxbridge, Gwillimsbury, and the tract

of

of land hereafter to be laid out into townships, lying between the county of Durham and lake Simcoe. The West Riding comprehends the townships of Beverly and Flamborough, the latter divided into Flamborough East and West; so much of the tract of land upon the Grand River, in the occupation of the Indians of the Six Nations, as lies to the northward of Dundas-street, and all the land between the said tract and the East Riding of the county of York, with the reserved lands in the rear of the townships of Blenheim and Blandford. 16. The county of Simcoe comprehends the townships of Matchedash, Gloucester, or Penetangueshine, together with Prince William Henry's Island, and all the land lying between the midland district, and a line produced due north from a certain fixed boundary (at the distance of about fifty miles north-west from the outlet of Burlington Bay), till it intersects the northern limits of the province. 17. The four ridings of the county of Lincoln; the first comprehends the townships of Clinton, Grimsby, Saltfleet, Barton, Ancaster, Glanford, Binbrook, Gainsborough, and Caistor. The second riding, the townships of Newark (now called Niagara), Grantham, and Louth. The third riding, the townships of Stamford, Thorold, and Pelham. The fourth riding, the townships of Bertie, Willoughby, Crowland, Humberstone, and Wainfleet. 18. The county of Haldimand comprehends the tract of land on each side of the Grand River, now in the occupation of the Indians of the Six Nations, and lying to the southward

southward and south-east of Dundas-street. 19. The county of Norfolk comprehends the townships of Rainham, Walpole, Woodhouse, Charlotteville, Walsingham, Houghton, Middleton, Windham, and Townsend, together with Turkey Point, and promontory of Long Point. 20. The county of Oxford comprehends the townships of Binford, Norwich, Dereham, Oxford-upon-Thames, Blandford, and Blenheim. 21. The county of Middlesex comprehends the townships of London, Westminster, Dorchester, Yarmouth, Southwould, Dunwich, Aldborough, and Delaware. 22. The county of Kent comprehends the townships of Dover, Chatham, Camden, distinguished by Camden East and West, the Moravian tract of land called Orford, distinguished by Orford North and South, Howard, Harwich, Raleigh, Romney, Tilbury, divided into East and West, with the township on the river Sinclair, occupied by the Shawney Indians, together with the islands in the lakes Erie and Sinclair, wholly or in greater part opposite thereto. 23. The county of Essex comprehends the townships of Rochester, Mersea, Gosfield, Maidstone, Sandwich, Colchester, Malden, and the tracts of land occupied by the Huron and other Indians upon the Strait, together with such of the islands as are in lakes Erie, Sinclair, or the Straits.

These twenty-three counties send twenty-one representatives to the provincial parliament, who with a legislative council

council are usually called together once a year. The representatives are elected for four years to serve in the assembly, unless the parliament be sooner dissolved. *Point au Bodêt* is situated nearly half way on the north side of lake St. Francis, which is about twenty-five miles long, and narrow throughout. The object of dividing the province of Quebec at a stone boundary, in the cove west of Point au Bodêt, was apparently to comprehend in the province of Lower Canada the seignioral grants under French tenure; and that the new granted townships which were laid out for the loyalists should be within the province of Upper Canada, the stone boundary alluded to being the limit between the uppermost French seigniory in the river St. Laurence, and the lower new township of Lancaster, surveyed for the disbanded troops and loyalists. In passing from Point au Bodêt westward, through lake St. Francis, and up the river St. Laurence, the passage is usually made on the north shore.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF THE TOWNSHIPS OF LANCASTER, CHARLOTTENBURGH, CORNWALL, AND OSNABURGH.

I SHALL now pursue my original plan, and endeavour to give a short account of each township. Lancaster, frequently called the water township, is the first township, and fronts lake St. Francis. It embraces, perhaps, as fine a tract of land as any in the province, more especially for grass, being rather low in its situation, and not in the least liable to injury from droughts. This is a great point, more especially from the local situation of this township, which has a preference to any other in the province for raising fat cattle. This advantage of the inhabitants is not only great in regard to a certainty of having plenty of food and water, but they are so near the market (Montreal), that they can with the greatest facility throw their produce into the market at the most advantageous moment. The townships in general extend in front about nine miles, and run back about twelve.

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This township is watered by three small rivers, one of which empties itself to the east, and another to the west of point Mouillée, which communicates with the lake towards the centre of the town. Hence it may readily be imagined, that for raising of stock, and fatting cattle for market, no situation or soil can exceed it; and the distance from Montreal market is not beyond fifty or sixty miles. The country about this lake is but thinly inhabited, in consequence, probably, of its apparent flatness, whence, I apprehend, much suspicion arises of its not being a healthy situation; for my own part, I have not observed more sickness in this part of the country than any other. Charlottenburgh is the next adjoining township, and claims the attention of every traveller. The soil of this place is generally good, though in this, as in all other townships, there is some indifferent land: it is well watered, and pretty thickly inhabited, but for the most part by emigrants from Scotland. The river Raisin passes partly through this township, the banks of which are very thickly inhabited. Charlottenburgh is in the county of Glengary, and its front on the river St. Laurence, being the second township from the lower province. This country must be admitted to be a very fine one, though being so entirely confined to Scottish settlers, it seldom attracts other strangers. The settlers from Europe do not adopt the same system as the Americans, which will account for their proceeding in cultivation with less dispatch than the common run of the inhabitants.—

Cornwall is the next adjoining township, which forms in reality a town of a mile square, lying in a very commodious bay in the river St. Laurence. This is a place of considerable consequence, and the residence of several families of high respectability It is the capital of the eastern district, where is the court-house, gaol, &c. This place is likewise so fortunate as to have a settled clergyman of the church of England residing there, a circumstance of great importance in a new country. This is the only clergyman of the church of England in the province, until you arrive at Kingston, a distance of about one hundred and twenty miles. Cornwall has enjoyed this advantage for nearly two years. The first incumbent is removed to William Henry, in the lower province, the present is lately presented.

It is much to be lamented that so little is yet done towards the removal of this very serious deficiency, neither is it easy to account for the neglect. That a country flourishing and abounding in all the riches of nature, whose population seems to increase in a degree exceeding every example, should be deficient in those most important advantages, a church and clergyman, seems to want explanation. The lands set aside for the clergy are very considerable, and doubtless ere long the clergy in this country will not only be numerous, but highly respectable. The resources for their maintenance are abundant. As a true friend to the country, I can only say I

most

most heartily wish more attention was paid to this weighty subject, which involves the happiness of the present race of people, and the instruction, moral and religious, of the rising generation. I will therefore dismiss that part of my subject; cordially hoping that some of his Majesty's Ministers will weigh, with their accustomed wisdom, this very important point, and contrive to provide clergy for a country where they are so much wanted.

Osnabruck is the next township ascending the St. Laurence from Cornwall; the river Raisin rises here in several branches. It has also two other streams which run into the St. Laurence, in front of which lie the isles *au Longue Sault*, *De trois Chevaux*, *Ecartees*, *au Diable*, *au Chat*. The Longue Sault forms a most remarkable rapid, and attracts the attention of every traveller; the scene is majestic, and well worthy of the observation of a stranger. Boats may pass near the shore, but where misfortune has either driven a boat or raft into the strong part of the current, it hath seldom happened that a life has been saved. A melancholy instance of the danger of this pass occurred in the old French war, when several boats with their crews were entirely lost. The rapid lies in front of Osnabruck. Boats in ascending the river usually keep the north shore; in descending they pass between the islands and the south shore, that being the safest passage. So well known are these rapids now, that the grain of the

 upper

upper country is taken down on rafts, or in boats, to Montreal, and an accident scarcely ever happens. The lumber trade is carried on with more safety down these rapids, than by those which pass Chambly from lake Champlain. In truth this trade is of considerable importance to the country, being the cause of much money being brought into the province. Attempts have been made to establish this trade, from the most distant parts of lake Ontario, but we conceive the risk to be far beyond the probable advantage; for though the produce of that very fertile country is exported to the Montreal market, it is generally thought more safe to transport grain across that large lake by vessels, than by rafting.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

TOWNSHIPS OF WILLIAMSBURGH, EDWARDSBURGH, JOHNSTOWN, AUGUSTA, ELIZABETHTOWN, YONGE, LANSDOWN, LEEDS.

WILLIAMSBURGH is the next township above Osnaburgh, and though a very fine township is favoured by but few streams. There are some islands in the front of it, among the rest *Isle au Rapid Plat,* the west end of which lies in front of Matilda, the next township. In the front is Point aux Pins and Point Iroquois, the latter of which has the advantage, in a great measure, of commanding the passage up and down the St. Laurence. A few islands lie in front of this township, and a peninsula, which is insulated at high water. This township is thickly inhabited, and may be esteemed valuable land, though inferior in water to some others: it derives great advantage from its situation with respect to the Montreal market. There are here many opulent and respectable farmers, the farms in the front largely improved, and being

being on the St. Laurence never suffer for want of water. There are many grist mills in different situations on the side of the river, and many others might be erected.

Edwardsb[illegible]n is the next township, which presents a most valuable and handsome country. This township seems freer from stones and rocks than almost any one which I have observed. The land is remarkably good, and in some parts is in a high state of cultivation; the reason of which is evident, for being rich and good, it was very early improved by good farmers. In the front of this township is Johnstown, a considerable settlement, forming a town of a mile square. This as well as Cornwall has been judiciously placed, one being immediately above the other, below the rapids of the Upper St. Laurence, and of course easy of access. From the lake St. Francis below to Cornwall, and from Johnstown, vessels may be navigated with safety to every part of lake Ontario. In this town are built the gaol and the court-house, where the Court of King's Bench sits, as well as the sessions and district court. This latter court was established in the year 1794, and has cognizance of all actions of contract for sums above forty shillings, and not exceeding forty pounds. It has four terms in a year, and is holden by a judge appointed by commission under the great seal of the province. The course of proceedings is plain and summary. The judge presiding in the said court issues his precept to the sheriff of the district, at least

least seven days before the week in which the sessions are holden, requiring him to summon not less than thirty-six jurors, living within the district, to appear at the place where the quarter sessions are held, from whom a jury is taken for the trial of each issue, the same as in all cases tried at *nisi prius*. This court, in the more distant parts of the province, dispatches the greater part of the business of the country, and for the most evident reasons: first, because the general run of debts does not exceed the jurisdiction of the court: the remedy also is summary, and the expence small. Whereas in the distant parts of the province, the Court of King's Bench, or Nisi Prius, is holden but once a year, and the expence infinitely greater. On the whole, this establishment must be considered as highly beneficial to the country at large. In the front of the township of Edwardsburgh are *Point au Cardinal, Point au Gallop, Point Ivrogne, Point au Foin,* and several other islands, among which are *Hospital Island* and *Isle du Fort Levy*, where the French had formerly a garrison. A little above Johnstown you have a full view of Fort Osweigatchie, situated on the river of that name. There is a handsome settlement erecting around the fort, where there is a remarkable fine grist and saw mill, and appearances seem to bespeak a very fine settlement. The whole is forming under the auspices of some gentlemen of the state of New York, whose characters stand so high in the general estimation of the people, that no doubt can remain of the success of the settlement.

settlement. It is with the sincerest pleasure I have to remark, that the most social harmony prevails betwe n the gentlemen on the American side of the St. Laurence and those of the British side; it reflects honour and credit on both, and forebodes the happiest consequences.

Augusta is the next township, ascending the great St. Laurence. Its situation is remarkably healthy and beautiful, and though tolerably well wa ed by springs, as well as by general access to the river, ie streams are but few: in the front is *Point au Barril*. The farms on the river are very handsome, and in a high state of cultivation; they are in general occupied by gentlemen of property, and cleared in a very handsome way. The houses here are good, several stone as well as framed houses, affording to passengers on the river a very beautiful and lively prospect. Elizabethtown is next in course, which is watered by the river Tomianta and three other streams, the *Isles du Barril* lying in front. This is a most valuable township in point of land, and is in general occupied by good farmers; there are, however, but few handsome farms on the river, which arises from the general front of this township being very rocky. This circumstance only operates against its appearance in front, for in proportion to its thin settlement in that part it is more thickly settled at the back, even to its fullest extent. The township of Yonge stands next on the river, and is of very

very irregular shape. The river Tomia ta empties itself into the St. Laurence, near the south-east angle of this township. Towards the upper part are the narrows, made by a peninsula from the north shore, and Grenadier island, which lies in front of this township, as do several other small ones. Much excellent land is to be found in this township; and though the front is somewhat rough, it is thickly settled, and many good farmers are resident in it. Lansdown adjoins to Yonge, and has the advantage of many small streams, though none of any great size. This township is tolerably well settled, has much good, and some rough land in it. Leeds adjoins to Lansdown, and is well watered by the river Gananoqui, which affords a good harbour. At its entrance, this river is about ten or twelve feet deep, it runs through the township and county of Leeds. There are several falls on this river, affording good mill seats. The upper falls form by nature a dam, whereon are erected mills of different kinds, a forge, furnace, and saw mill, and there soon will be added a grist mill. These improvements offer a great reward to the projectors, and much advantage to the public. The government has given considerable land to the projectors, and reserved much more for their use. Iron works were much wanted in the country, and doubtless will be of general benefit. There are other forges in contemplation in different parts of the province, an

 event

event much to be wished, as the chief of the iron used in this extensive country is brought from Montreal. Howe island lies partly in front of this township, as do several small islands.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

TOWNSHIPS OF PITTSBURGH, KINGSTON, ERNEST-TOWN, KENT, &c.

PITTSBURGH lies next to Leeds; part of Wolfe island and part of Howe island are in its front. This township adjoins to Kingston, and from hence westward the St. Laurence opens into lake Ontario, it being about one hundred and twenty miles from Kingston to Point *au Bodêt*. This township consists of land of different descriptions, some good, some but indifferent. Its greatest advantage arises from being near to Kingston, where the inhabitants find a market for their superfluous produce. It may be proper here to observe, that the St. Laurence may be classed with the most noble rivers in the world. Its waters flow about two thousand miles before they reach the ocean: the commercial advantages arising from such a situation increase in proportion to the population of

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the adjoining country. The Indian trade by the way of this river is extensive, particularly since vessels of a considerable size are daily building for this navigation. The country I have described surpasses all imagination in regard to the rapidity with which it has been improved; the first improvements having begun since the peace of 1783, at which period the whole country was in a state of nature, and heavily timbered. There are at present near forty mills on this communication; the roads are tolerably good, and from Elizabethtown to Cornwall very fine; insomuch, that carriages can pass and re-pass as well as in most parts of England. At the back of these front townships are upwards of twenty others, whose settlements are highly respectable, and are supplied with mills, seats, &c. by the waters of the *Rideaux* and *Petit Nation* and *Gananoqui* rivers. These rivers abound with fish of different descriptions; the lands in the rear are of different qualities, and will in their place be described as accurately as the nature of the present design will admit. The heads of the rivers *Rideaux* and *Petit Nation* communicate, by short portages, with the waters which fall into the St. Laurence, and promise to afford great advantages to all kinds of inland communication in winter, more especially affording the finest convenience in winter, by sleighing on the ice. After a few hard nights a sleigh (or sledge) will pass, chiefly on the ice, on the Rideaux, to the Grand or Ottawas river, whence they approach Montreal. The forks of the Rideaux in the vicinity

vicinity of Oxford, Marlborough, and Gower, promise at some future period to be an emporium for internal commerce.

Kingston is the next place claiming our attention, and is a very neat and tolerably well-built town, at the head of the St. Laurence, on the north shore. It occupies the site of old fort *Frontenac*. This place was laid out in the year 1784, and is now of considerable size. In Kingston will be found an excellent society, a barrack for troops, an hospital church, and several most respectable houses, a gaol, and a court-house. A cove near the town affords a good harbour for shipping. Large vessels seldom go below Kingston, though the river is navigable seventy or eighty miles below; the reason is, that the channel is too narrow to admit of return without a tolerably fair wind. In the neighbourhood is found excellent lime stone, which is an article producing considerable trade. The land immediately adjoining is not very rich, but within a mile or two is very good, and farmers there are rapidly succeeding.

Ernest-town is the adjoining township to Kingston, and is well watered by two small rivers. Amherst island is in its front, Camden at the back. The Appanee river runs through it, on which are erected some very valuable mills. The lands here are tolerable; not in the extreme for goodness or the reverse, though in certain situations there are remarkable fine farms.

farms. This part of the country is thickly settled, and seems thriving very fast.

The bay of Quinté here commences; the first township on which is Fredericksburgh to the north, and Marysburgh to the south. This bay is of great extent, probably sixty or seventy miles. It may be considered throughout as a harbour, being formed by a large peninsula, consisting of the townships of Ameliasburgh, Sophiasburgh, and Marysburgh, extending easterly from an isthmus, where there is a portage, or carrying place, at the head, or west end of the bay, to point Pleasant, the easternmost extremity of the peninsula. Opposite to Amherst island, the river Trent empties itself into the head of the bay, to the eastward of the portage, and supplies it with the waters of the Rice lake. To the westward of the portage, in lake Ontario, is the harbour of *Presque-Isle de Quinté*, now called Newcastle. The land adjacent to the bay is celebrated for raising good wheat; in truth, great quantities of that valuable commodity are exported from this country, chiefly in the form of flour. There are several excellent mills in this part of the country, and one in particular, that excites the curiosity of every traveller. Upon the top of a very high hill there is a large pond, which is supplied with water by springs within itself; at the foot of the hill a mill is erected, and a small hole is cut through the upper part of the bank, from which the water is introduced into a small trough,

and

and conducted below on the water-wheel, thus affording a continual supply for the purposes of grinding.

The peninsula of the three townships, called the county of Prince Edward, extending from the main land like an arm, hides from the lake Ontario the townships of Sidney, Thurlow, Adolphus-town, and Fredericksburgh, which front the north side of the bay. The river Trent, discharging itself between the townships of Murray and Sidney, finds its passage between the county of Prince Edward, and the townships on the north side of the bay. Its stream is increased by the Appanee river, running in from Camden, which, dividing Richmond from Fredericksburgh, joins the waters of the bay near John's island. This is a small island, opposite to a settlement of Mohawks, and so named from captain John, a Mohawk chief, who resides there, and who, with some others of that nation, had a tract of land given him by his Majesty of about nine miles in front on the bay, and about twenty-nine miles deep. Preferring this situation they separated from the rest of their nation, who were settled on the grand river or Ouse. In Fredericksburgh and Adolphus-town there are several fine bays and coves, and in the latter township there is a small town on the bay opposite to Marysburgh. The river Shannon runs into the bay at the south-east angle of the township of Thurlow and the Moira river, at the south-west angle of that township. There are several small coves and bays

also

also in the peninsula of Prince Edward, and a small lake between Sophiasburgh and Marysburgh, which empties itself into a bay of the lake Ontario. There is an island in the bay, between Sophiasburgh and Thurlow, and between Killikokin point and point Oubesaoutegongs of about seven miles long. The isle of *Quinté*, now called Nicholas island, lies off Ameliasburgh in lake Ontario; and off point Traverse, in Marysburgh, and the Duck islands. In the deep bay between point Traverse and point Pleasant are Orphan island and *Isle du Chêne*. The river Trent, which falls into the head of the bay of Quinté, not only leads off the waters of the Rice lake, but of a chain of lakes between it and lake Simcoe. A few miles up the river, on the south-side, are salt springs. The bay of Quinté, which is about seventy miles in length, forms the appearance of a beautiful old settled country; the fertility of the soil is universally allowed; the land is rich, easily worked, and produces several crops without manure. This bay and the creeks emptying themselves into it, abound in great quantities of wild fowl, and fish of various kinds. The timber is much like that of the other parts of the province; oak, elm, hickory, beach, &c. An apparent tide is frequently noticed in the bay of Quinté, not unlike those observed in some of the upper lakes. In passing from the head of the bay of Quinté into lake Ontario, you cross a short portage, in front of the township of Murray, being the isthmus between it and the peninsula of Prince Edward. At the end of the portage,

portage, and before you enter lake Ontario is a small lake, exceedingly beautiful, and the lands on its banks extremely good. To the northward of this portage, it is proposed to make a canal to connect the waters of the bay with those of the lake. The circumstance of two small streams rising near each other, and running different ways, seems to point out the facility of the measure. The cut which Campbell, in his notes on the Political Survey of Great Britain, calls Earl Gower's canal, seems to be well suited to this country, where labour bears so high a price, and where the rooting up of immense trees is so great a difficulty to encounter. A little to the westward of the portage and the proposed canal is the harbour of Newcastle, a situation well situated for commerce and protection, and sheltered from all winds. A knoll on the peninsula affords a healthy site for the town.

After leaving Murray, in going to the westward, you pass the townships of Cramahe, Haldimand, and Hamilton. The lands of those townships are of the usual description, much good land, some indifferent. Settlers are coming in from the states yearly, and those townships promise a rapid increase of settlements. They are not yet settled any thing like so thickly as the country we have been describing, but doubtless, in a few years, the whole will be improved.

On arriving at the township of Hope you find excellent mills, and from thence there is a portage to the Rice lake. From this place you pass by the fronts of Clarke, Darlington, and Whitby; and coming to Pickering, you meet with an excellent salmon and sturgeon fishery, at a river called Duffin's creek, which is generally open, and large enough to receive boats at most seasons of the year. In those townships are found good land in abundance, and pine-timber in plenty. There are saw-mills in the neighbourhood, affording an easy opportunity to settlers, to get boards, &c. for building. After leaving the township of Pickering you pass under the highlands of Scarborough, and arrive at the township of York. Scarborough is a township much admired, the land in general not only good, but so contiguous to the seat of government, that its value is greater than in the places last described. All the townships on the north side of the lake are well watered by small streams, at the mouths of which are ponds and low sands capable of being drained and converted to meadows. At the back of the township of Murray is the township of Seymour, and behind Cramahe is Percy. At the back of Hald' nd is Alnwick, and in the rear of Hamilton is Aives. The river Nen emptics itself into lake Ontario, in the township of Pickering, east of Scarborough Heights. It runs from a considerable distance in the country, through Scarborough, Markham, &c. crossing Yonge-street, and apparently

apparently rising in the vicinity of one of the branches of Holland's river, with which it will probably, at some future period, be connected by a canal. This river abounds with fish.

CHAP. VIII.

ACCOUNT OF YORK, THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

WE now come to York, which is the seat of government of Upper Canada, and lies in about 43 degrees and 35 minutes north latitude. It is situated within an excellent harbour of the same name, made by a long peninsula, which embraces a bason of water sufficiently large to contain a considerable fleet. Vessels may ride safely at its entrance during the winter. On the extremity of the peninsula, which is called Gibraltar point, are erected commodious block-houses and stores, commanding the entrance to the harbour. On the main land, opposite to the point, is the garrison, situated on a point, made by the harbour and a small rivulet, which, being improved by sluices, affords an easy access for boats to go up to the stores. The barracks being built on a knoll are well situated for health, and command a delightful prospect of the lake

lake to the west, and the harbour to the East. The government-house, which is now finished, has a striking appearance from the lake, and is well calculated for the residence of a governor. Its situation is commanding, about two miles above the garrison, near the head of the harbour. The town is much increased within the last two or three years, and several very good houses have been built by the different officers of government. The society of the place is highly respectable, and its hospitality is experienced by every visitor. The public buildings, where the Legislative Council, House of Assembly, and Courts of Law sit, are not yet finished. The gaol is a tolerable building, and in a healthy situation. The town is not large, but well furnished with every necessary convenience, and the market is well supplied. Beef, mutton, venison, fish, &c. in abundance, and as good as in any part of the world. There are several very respectable private stores, but goods are rather high. The usual supply is from Montreal, so that after the expence of boating from Montreal to Kingston, they have to incur the additional expence of storage at Kingston, and freight across the lake to York. This must account also for the extravagant price of labour at York, which seems to be a great inconvenience to the inhabitants. The land around York is in general sandy, but bears very good crops of almost every description. A few miles back the land is much stronger. The point of the town, as now laid out, is one mile and a half in length. The streets are

tolerably

tolerably uniform, and exhibit a handsome prospect from the lake. The river Don empties itself into the harbour a little above the town, running through a marsh which, when drained, will afford most beautiful and valuable meadows. This has already been effected in a small degree, and will no doubt be extended; the difficulty is not very great, and from the contiguity of the marsh to the town the expence, though heavy, may be supplied. The long beach or peninsula affords a most delightful ride or walk, and is considered as so healthy by the Indians, that they frequently resort to it when indisposed. Yonge-street, or the military way which leads to lake Simcoe, and from thence to Gloucester on lake Huron, commences at the back of the town. This great communication has been opened to Gwilliamsbury, between thirty and forty miles, and is calculated to attract the attention of the north-west company. It is considerably shorter than the route by the streights of Niagara and Detroit. Farms are laid out on each side of Yonge-street, having the width of a quarter of a mile each. A farm or lot comprehends two hundred acres: the land in general is excellent, and from its situation will soon be thickly settled. There have been very liberal subscriptions in the town of York, for the improvement of the road through Yonge-street, and two or three miles are finished in a very judicious manner. In a very few years, this will doubtless be a most valuable country, and of infinite importance to the seat of government.

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

HOLLAND RIVER, LAKE SIMCOE, &c.

AFTER leaving Gwilliamsbury, you enter Holland river, and pass into lake Simcoe by the head of Cook's bay; to the westward of which are Oak plains, where the Indians cultivate corn, and on the east is a tract of land of excellent quality. A few small islands show themselves as the lake opens, of which Darling's island in the eastern part is the most considerable. To the westward is a large deep bay called Kempenfelt's bay, from the head of which is a short carrying-place to the river Nottuasaque, which empties itself into the Iroquois bay in lake Huron. In the north end of the lake, near the narrows, leading to a small lake, is Francis island; between which and the north shore vessels may lie in safety. From the bay west of Francis island there is a good path and a short portage, into a small lake, and this is the nearest way

to

to lake Huron. The river which falls from lake Simcoe into Matchedash bay, is called the Matchedash river, making a more circuitous passage to the northward and westward. Black river joins the waters of lake Simcoe, nearly where they fall into Matchedash river. The source of this river is near the head of the river Rideaux. The river Matchedash, excepting where there are rapids, is in every part navigable for boats of any size. These rapids are intermixed with falls, which afford situations for mills. The land on each side of this river is very indifferent. The river Matchedash, falling into a bay of that name to the eastward, which receives North and South river, discharges itself into a larger bason called Gloucester or Sturgeon bay; in the mouth of which lies Prince William Henry's island, open to lake Huron. On a peninsula in this bason some French ruins are still extant; and between two large promontories is the harbour of Penetangushene, around which there is good land for settlement. To the west of the largest promontory, is Nottuasaque bay (or outlet of the Iroquois) open to lake Huron. Throughout the greatest part of Matchedash bay there is a depth of water for vessels of any draught, except towards the bottom of the bay. Penetangushene has been discovered to be a very excellent harbour. On the east side of Yonge-street, at the back of the townships of York and Scarborough, is the township of Markham, settled principally by Germans. In this tract are some good mills, built on the branch of the river Nen. In

passing

passing out of the harbour of York to the westward, you see the garrison on the main land at the entrance of the harbour, which, with the block-houses on Gibraltar point, are its security; and a little to the westward of the garrison are the remains of the old French fort Toronto, and adjoining to it is a deep bay that receives the river Humber, on which are saw-mills belonging to the government. Further to the westward (that is, between the Humber and the head of the lake Ontario) the Tobicoake, the Credit, and two other rivers, with a great many smaller streams, join the main waters of the lake; they all abound with fish, particularly salmon. At this place is a small house for the entertainment of travellers.

The tract between the Tobicoake and the head of the lake is frequented only by wandering tribes of Missassagues. At the head of the lake Ontario there is a smaller lake within a long beach of about five miles; from this there is an outlet into lake Ontario, over which there is a good bridge. At the south end of the beach there is a commodious inn erected for the accommodation of travellers, by order of General Simcoe, formerly lieutenant governor. It is beautifully situated at a small portage, which leads from the head of a natural canal, connecting Burlington bay with lake Ontario, and is a good land-mark. Burlington bay is perhaps as beautiful and romantic a situation as any in America; particularly if we include with it a marshy lake which falls into it, and a noble promontory that divides

 them.

them. This lake is called Coote's Paradise, and abounds with game.

From the head of the lake, following the shore of the Ontario, we proceed eastward along the borders of the county of Lincoln, a very fine and populous settlement, consisting of twenty townships, containing about six thousand souls, and furnishing five battalions of militia. There are a great many small rivers which fall into the lake between Burlington bay and Niagara, the most beautiful of which are the Twelve and the Twenty, as they are called. These rivers, previously to their flowing into the lake, spread behind a beach which impedes their course, and the stream finding only a small outlet, is forced back, and forms a spacious bason within. The banks are high, but not broken, and generally covered with large pine-trees.

The town of Niagara stands at the north-east angle of the county of Lincoln, nearly opposite to the fort of that name; at the entrance of Niagara river, the western point, which forms the mouth of the river, is called Missassague point. Niagara is a handsome town of about a mile square, and its streets at right angles; here is a gaol and court-house, originally built for the home district; and near to it, on the heights above Navy Hall, is fort George, where there are quarters for nearly a regiment of soldiers. The first parliament

ment of Upper Canada met here, but since York has been made the seat of government, of course the legislative council and assembly meet there. The town of Niagara was formerly called Newark, and is situated in latitude 43; it is well supplied with fish at all seasons of the year, and in the winter particularly are caught prodigious quantities of white fish, which seem particular to this river. They usually weigh from two to six pounds each, and are considered as the best fish in these waters. Sturgeon, bass, and many other kinds of fish, are also taken here in great plenty. Salmon is caught in all the creeks around the lake. This abundance of fish affords great assistance to the inhabitants, more especially the new settlers, who at first may be supposed scantily provided with beef, pork, &c. It is a common practice here for farmers to lay up six or eight barrels of fish for the use of their families. The land about Niagara, for many miles, is not so good as the more distant situations, yet the country is well settled upwards of fifty miles around. The climate here is remarkably fine, and, from unaccountable causes, notwithstanding there are great quantities of large timber, there is a very small proportion of underwood. From this circumstance, the new beginner can with great facility raise his first crop; for by thinning the standing timber, and girdling the remainder, he can with very little labour put in a crop. The plough is seldom used till the third year, the farmer relying on the harrow for at least the two first crops.

CHAP. X.

NIAGARA RIVER, DETROIT, THAMES, FORT ERIE, &c.

NIAGARA river is navigable for vessels of any size, from the mouth to Queenstown, a distance of about seven or eight miles. Such vessels as are not unloaded at Niagara, discharge their cargoes at Queenstown, and take in furs collected by Indians and others. It is said that the furs collected here are brought from one to three thousand miles distance. The usual size of vessels following the trade is from fifty to one hundred tons burthen. There are sometimes not less than sixty waggons loaded in one day, which are carried ten miles to the upper landing place, or Chippawa creek, three miles past the great falls. This portage is an increasing source of wealth to the farmers for many miles round, who carry about twenty hundred weight, for which they get one shilling

shilling and eight-pence, New York currency, per hundred, and generally load back with furs, &c. From Chippawa the merchandize is transported in batteaux to fort Erie, at the distance of eighteen miles, and are shipped there for Detroit and Michilimackinack. Detroit is a pleasant country, though a low and marshy soil, and is more remarkable for its fur trade than its agriculture. At the head of lake Ontario, about fifty miles west from Newark, there is a small town laid out, and public stores are building, being a central place between Newark, York, and Detroit. From thence a road of twenty-two miles to the grand river is cut out, and crosses that about fifty miles above its entrance into lake Erie, continuing in a southern direction to the river la Trenche, now called the Thames, which empties itself into lake St. Clair, about twenty miles above Detroit.

Settlements are making on this road, and along the river Thames partial ones are made, for an extent of eighty or ninety miles. On these two rivers are extensive, open flats of land, equal to those of the Mohawk river in the state of New York, on which may be cut a sufficiency of hay for many thousand heads of cattle yearly. The lands on this road are of an excellent quality, and in many places lightly timbered, in others covered with thrifty oak, black walnut, sugar maple, beech, and lindar. There is still plenty of vacant land of the best kind, and they who show a disposition

sition to settle and improve it, meet from the governor every encouragement they merit. He makes liberal grants to all such as actually bring on settlers, and prove themselves desirous of promoting the interest of the country; the whole of which is well adapted for raising wheat, Indian corn, and other summer grain. Flax, where the land has borne a few other crops, succeeds remarkably well, and the face of the whole country yields grass in great abundance. Hops of a good quality grow here spontaneously, also a variety of wild fruits, such as plumbs, mulberries, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, and grapes. Orchards are in great forwardness for the age of the settlement, some of which already bear great quantities of fruit; peaches, cherries, and currants, are in abundance. The farmers breed also great quantities of pork, without any other expence than a little Indian corn for a few weeks previous to killing, the hogs having till then subsisted on nuts in the woods. In many places salt springs have been discovered, and some of them already worked to such advantage, that in all probability salt, which generally is a heavy article in the interior part of the country, may in a short time be afforded here as low as in many of the old settled places. Many valuable streams for water works run in every direction through this country, and upon some of them mills are built which prove very lucrative to the owners, particularly saw mills, from the quantity of good timber, and the great demand for boards. More buildings are in truth

erecting

erecting than carpenters and masons can be found to finish. Stones being scarce, bricks are generally used in building. This settlement was begun by a few disbanded troops, after the peace of 1783; and being but little known by the people of the United States, who had imbibed an opinion that it was entirely under the controul of the military, few emigrants in consequence of this false idea bent their course this way, till they were convinced of their mistake. At present, numbers of respectable inhabitants have removed from the different states of America, some of whom have come in their waggons even from North Carolina: but there is a space of country for about seventy miles between Niagara and the Genesee country, where the roads are not sufficiently open for waggons. This obstruction, however, I hope will soon be removed. The mode of settlement generally pursued here, and which seems best calculated to save expence, is by two, three, or more men coming on, as it is usually termed, in the summer, who raise a log-house, each putting in a field of wheat, after which they return for their families. They who travel by land bring their families as far as the mouth of the Genesee river, then take boats, and send their cattle by land.

In the year 1790, the wisdom of the British government was eminently evinced in dividing the province of Quebec into two separate governments, and granting to each a constitution on the most liberal, as well as disinterested principles;

ples; a constitution perhaps unequalled in the historic page for freedom, and a just regard to the happiness of the subject; with all the advantages enjoyed by the British colonies in America, previous to the revolution, and with many that are additional. No man's property is here taxed for any cause whatever, directly or indirectly: the British government most generously paying the whole expence of the civil establishment. This country is excelled by none for richness of soil, and the prosperous aspect of agriculture and trade. In fact, every thing that can conduce to make an industrious man happy, may in this country be found. With respect to the government, its administration is conducted with every wish and attention to render the situation of those who may settle under it comfortable and happy. Neither land-tax, quit-rent, or any other tax whatever is known; excepting the country rates, payable by the freeholders for the regulation of their internal police.

There is a good road from Niagara to fort Erie, passing through Queenstown and fort Welland, formerly called Chippawa. Queenstown, where there are huts for a regiment, is at one end of the carrying place, as fort Welland is at the other. When the wind serves, vessels sail from Niagara to Queenstown, and unload their cargoes, receiving, as before mentioned, packs of furs or peltries in return, for the Lower Canada merchants. At forts Welland and Erie are block-

block-houses built of square timber, where are received detachments of troops from fort George. The merchandize is transported in boats from the upper country to Queenstown. There is a stage regularly passing from Niagara to fort Welland, between which places there is a constant intercourse.

The falls of Niagara we have before noticed; but though it may seem an omission not to be more particular, respecting an object of so great curiosity, yet in fact so many persons have written on the subject, that it seems superfluous, and in some degree presumptuous, to attempt the description. Suffice it to say, that this immense cataract is situated a little below the mouth of the river Welland, and is no less wonderful than magnificent. On the avenues to it are remarkably fine mills, and the falls themselves are capable of being applied to the same use. Above the falls is a curious spring, the air or vapour from which will take fire, and the flame being collected in a common stove pipe, the heat so produced is sufficiently strong to boil a tea-kettle. Above the falls are saw mills, the logs intended for which are conveyed in a very remarkable manner. They are cut on the banks of the river Welland, and floated down to its mouth, where there is a reservoir made to receive them by a chain of hog pens, as they are called. From hence it is very dangerous to go in a boat to the mills, on account of the great rapid, and the pro-

 bability

bability of being sucked into the vast vortex of the falls. To prevent this, poles have been fixed together from the reservoir to the mill, upwards of a mile, and floating about the distance of eighteen or twenty feet from the shore; they are kept off the shore in their places by poles projecting from the shore; and thus the chain of poles rising and falling with the waters, and always floating on the surface, make a kind of canal, into which the logs are launched, one by one, and so carried from the reservoir to the mill. Below the falls is a whirlpool, where the river has apparently made an effort to break its way through to the westward, but not having power to do so has left an elbow; where there is a constant and great eddy, which has broke through the penetrable strata to the northward.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

LAKE ERIE, WOODHOUSE, CHARLOTTEVILLE, DETROIT, SANDWICH, CHATHAM, &c.

FORT Erie is situated at the eastern extremity of lake Erie, where the waters narrow into the Niagara river. There is a small old fort here, with a good new block-house. Soldiers are usually quartered here, as also at fort Welland, for the purposes of transporting the public stores. Fort Erie has frequently suffered from the westerly gales, which occasion the lake sometimes to rise very greatly. The new fort is projected on a small height, at the back of the present garrison. In passing along the northern shore of lake Erie, westward from the fort, nothing worthy of remark occurs, till your view is intercepted by Long Point bay. The principal feature within this distance is the point Abino, a shelter for vessels which find here good anchorage. The Grand

 River,

River, or Ouse, discharges itself into the lake, about twenty-four miles beyond point Abino, its entrance being covered by a rocky island. At a small distance from the shore, between point Abino and the Ouse, is a high hill resembling a sugar loaf, which affords a good land-mark for vessels. The townships in this part of the province are settling very fast, and many mills are erected. The lands in general are good, and the climate uncommonly fine. This situation has many peculiar advantages, but, like most others, experiences a counterpoise. The climate here is so favourable, and the springs so numerous, that large quantities of cattle may be raised at little expence. It is customary to keep cattle altogether in the woods, where they increase to a very great degree, without incurring the common expence of foddering, &c. Some trouble, however, the farmers have, to collect them occasionally, and prevent them from ranging too wide. In opposition to the advantage here mentioned, it is said that so many are raised that no market offers for a sale. But this applies only to a home market, for by driving two or three hundred miles a very good one may be found; for example, Albany, &c. in the United States.

In Woodhouse and Charlotteville there is a great space of country thinly timbered, and without any underwood. It is well calculated for roads, and is sufficiently open for European carriages to pass, resembling more a nobleman's park in

England

England than the uncultivated lands of nature. Above Turkey point, on the heights, is the town-plot of Charlotteville, and at the extremity of the point is the site of the projected wharfs and docks, with a good channel leading to it. Within the point is an extensive marsh, where the settlers feed great numbers of cattle, which are driven to different parts of the province for consumption. Long Point, now called the North Foreland, is a peninsula, projecting from the south-west angle of the township of Walsingham, eastward into the lake, about twenty miles, making an arm, which forms a very large bay. Where the peninsula joins the main there is a creek, which, when the waters are high, is of sufficient depth for boats to pass from within the bay over the neck into the lake; and when the waters are low the distance is so short, that the batteaux are easily hauled over. Pottohawk point is a small projection from Long point within, and connected nearly with Turkey point by a chain of rushy islands running across the uppermost part of the bay. From Charlotteville there is an excellent road through the country to the Mohawk village. On the Ouse, from Long point, you proceed westward by Kettle creek, and the river Barbutt, a distance of about twenty-five miles, where the banks of the lake are high, until you arrive at Landguard, formerly called *Point aux Pins*. From hence there is a short communication by land to Chatham. At the forks of the river Thames, from Landguard, you proceed to point

Pelé,

Pelé, or the South Foreland, which makes a great projection into the lake; and having doubled that point you enter the settlements made by the loyalists in the townships of Mersea, Gosfield, and Colchester: and having continued westward through these townships, you arrive at Malden at the mouth of the strait or Detroit river. The military post of Amherstburgh is in the township of Malden, opposite to the *isle au Bois Blanc*, to which it furnishes a small detachment, and commands the east channel of Detroit. There is a good and safe anchorage, between the island and the main shore, which is well adapted for wharfs, and has other conveniences for naval and commercial purposes.

In going up Detroit river you pass a low marshy island, called Turkey island, or Fighting island, near four miles long. The channel on the west side of this island is the best; and the town of Sandwich presents itself on a small plain, close to the bank of the river. This town has been laid out for the reception of British merchants, who, agreeably to the treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, made their election of remaining British subjects. It is rapidly increasing; there is a good windmill in the front of the town; the Huron church is at its northern extremity, and the shore is well adapted for the building of wharfs, and for the security of vessels in the winter. The district gaol and court-house are erected here, and small parks for the convenience of the town are laid out at the back of the town,

town, and given to the builders of the first houses. There are several windmills on the Detroit, and an orchard on almost every farm. The settlers are numerous, and the improvements handsome and extensive. When the fruit-trees are in blossom, the prospect, as you pass through the strait, is perhaps as delightful as any in the world.

Leaving this town you pass Hog island and enter lake St. Clair, which is a small lake, in comparison to either lake Ontario or lake Erie, and shallow throughout. It receives the waters of lake Superior, Michigan, and Huron, by a long channel from north to south, called river St. Clair. It also receives the waters of the Thames which fall into the lake on the north-east side. Near the mouth of this river are extensive marshes or natural meadows, affording quantities of wild hay; and these, with the exception of some small tracts of wood-land on the banks of the river, and a few woody islands, extend about twenty miles up the country, and about four or five miles in depth, affording abundance of hay, in truth much more than the settlers can consume. About fifteen miles up the river St. Clair is the town of Chatham, situated in a fork of the river, on a very desirable spot, so well protected and so centrically placed, that as the population increases it will doubtless become a large and flourishing place. A block-house was erected here under General Simcoe, and it was made a depôt for the fine whale boats, which were built under the General's directions. It possesses, indeed, many advantages; the

the point is extremely well suited for the launching of vessels, and the river is sufficiently deep for those of any size; so that a secure arsenal and building place, and a good dock, might be made in the lesser branch of the forks, upon which there is now a mill. Firs are easily floated down from the pinery above, and other kinds of timber necessary for ship-building may be procured by water carriage. Its greatest disadvantage is the bar crossing into lake St. Clair, but the water is sufficiently deep to admit small craft, and large vessels when lightened: and it would answer as a good winter harbour for any vessel navigating the lakes, if she made herself light enough to pass over the bar. This might easily be effected for all vessels, by having a large flat-bottomed lighter stationed at the mouth of the river, for that particular purpose.

About twenty miles above Chatham is a village of Moravian Indians, under the guidance of four Missionaries from the United Brethren: and here they have a chapel. The converts are Indians, who are peaceable and civil; their principal employment is in attending their corn-fields, and the manufacture of maple sugar. Above the village, on the river, is a large bituminous spring. Passing upwards from the Moravian village, the Thames continues a fine serpentine course without falls, with a natural tracking or towing path great part of the way. The windings of the river leave fine rich bottoms, and on the tops of the banks is beautiful cleared land. Passing the Delaware village, and a settlement on the beautiful

tiful plains of the Delaware township, where there is a fine pinery and good mills, you arrive at the spot selected by his excellency General Simcoe for the site of London. This situation is on the main fork of the river Thames, and considered by his excellency as the proper place for the seat of government. It offers many striking advantages for the capital of the province, is centrically situated in regard to the lakes Erie, Huron, and Ontario, and around it is a large tract of land, well calculated for agricultural purposes. It communicates with lake St. Clair and the Detroit by the river Thames; with lake Huron by the northern or main branch of the Thames and a small portage; and with the Ouse, formerly Grand River, and with lake Ontario, by the military way called Dundas-street. The proposed fortifications on the heights of Charlotteville, above Turkey point and within the North Foreland, promise it protection from the lake Erie. The work at Chatham protects the approach to it up the Thames, and there are several strong posts which guard it from the eastward; add to this, that its local situation secures the interest and attachment of that large band of Indians, "The Chippawa nation." The township of London is also a healthy situation, and is well watered; the streams have gravelly bottoms, and the water has a most beautiful and brilliant appearance. The soil is rich, abounding in walnut, cherry, bass, elm, sugar-maple, beech, ash, and various other kinds of timber. The timber is in general large, de-

 noting

noting a strong soil; the whole of this tract is well watered by the Thames river, and part of the river *Chenal Ecarté;* below the fork of the Thames is an island made by the river having broken through a small isthmus, and several springs add to the stream. In the vicinity of the island the banks in general are high, with intervals here and there of fine flats, originally used by the Indians as planting grounds, particularly on the north side of the river adjoining the fork. On the east side of the fork, between the two main branches of the river Thames, on a regular eminence about forty feet above the water, is a natural plain, interspersed with small groves of wood, affording in its present state the appearance of a most beautiful park, improved with great cost and taste. The pines which skirt the river show their tops above the banks, and form a most beautiful termination of the view. From London you pass up the Thames to Dorchester, another fork of that river, and from Dorchester still higher to Oxford, being upon the upper forks. From hence Dundas-street extends forty-two miles to Burlington bay, whence you pass immediately into lake Ontario, through a small outlet, from which place it is thirty-five miles to York.

Thus have we made a circuit of this extensive country, and given a general account of most situations. Many of the back townships have been intentionally omitted, as my design was circumscribed, but I purpose by an Appendix to give

give an alphabetical and brief account of those omitted, with as particular an account of each township as the nature of the present publication will admit. I have omitted also almost any account of the different nations of Indians, because such an account, to be made in any degree satisfactory, would swell to a great extent. In every part of this country they occasionally make their appearance, bringing in furs by way of barter for blankets, &c. In the month of June numbers of them meet at fort Michilimackinac, and European goods are even here sold for the different Spanish settlements on the Mississippi. This fort, the forts of Detroit, Niagara, Oswego, and Oswegatchie, fell to the United States when the lines of separation were drawn between the two countries. Fort Miami, which was built by the British since the peace, fell also to the United States. The Indians in general seem capable of civilization; we have strong instances of the kind. Captain Joseph Brant is one example, from early education and habit. He is a good companion, his manners are mild and friendly, he has a very good house, and receives his white friends with vast hospitality. He has a regular farm adjoining his house, and pursues a judicious system of husbandry. We decline, however, entering further on the subject, since the public have already, from different authors, had most accurate accounts of the different nations.

 Thus

Thus have I accomplished my original plan, giving a small sketch of this vast country, and if it shall be found to afford amusement to my readers, I shall be perfectly satisfied.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX

TO THE

SKETCH OF UPPER CANADA;

BEING

A Brief Account

OF THE

SEVERAL TOWNSHIPS,

MANY OF WHICH HAVE NOT FALLEN UNDER OBSERVATION, ON THE ROUT OR COMMON ROAD THROUGH THE SAID PROVINCE, AND WHICH ARE HERE ALPHABETICALLY DISPOSED.

APPENDIX.

ADOLPHUS TOWN.—Its situation is peculiarly striking, its front being on the bay of Quinté, in the county of Lenox, commanding a beautiful view of the opposite shore. In fact it forms a bend or semicircle into the bay, so much so that it may be said to be bounded, not only southerly, but westerly and northerly by the bay. To the eastward it is bounded by Fredericksburgh. For the convenience of the inhabitants of this part of the midland district, the court of general quarter session of the peace and the district court are holden here twice a year; a circumstance of infinite local advantage, not only accommodating persons necessarily engaged in those courts, but precluding the necessity of calling jurors to Kingston from those distant parts of the district.

ALDBOROUGH.

ALDBOROUGH.—This township lies in the county of Suffolk, west of the township of Dunwich. The river Thames runs through it to the northward, and to the southward it is bounded by lake Erie. The land in this part of the country is highly spoken of by all travellers; it possesses many advantages, such as climate, soil, fisheries, &c. which are doubtless of the greatest importance; but as we cannot, in justice to our declared intentions, omit any thing *material* it must be confessed that this situation is unfortunately not contiguous to any market. That circumstance however applies only to grain; it is within reach of several good markets *for cattle*, which are in this country raised as cheap as in any part of the world.

ALFRED.—This township lies on the Grand River in the county of Glengary; its situation is good in many respects, though it has its disadvantages. The land is rather low, which rather discourages settlers, but its situation for *market* is excellent, not exceeding the distance of forty miles from Montreal. In the summer there is daily water carriage, in the winter most excellent sleighing on the ice. A pair of horses on ice will undoubtedly draw double the load they can on common roads, which of course gives an astonishing advantage to this part of the province.

ALNWICK—Lies in the county of Northumberland, at the back of Haldimand. The land is good, but very thinly inhabited; perhaps one of the greatest impediments is "bad roads." Its distance from York, the seat of government, does not exceed forty or fifty miles.

AMELIASBURGH.

AMELIASBURGH—Is the most western township in the county of Prince Edward, and lies in the bay of Quintè. The whole of the country on the bay is much extolled as a grain country, and in point of situation there is no material difference to be observed. The whole forming a very rich and handsome district, and found from experience to be a very excellent wheat country.

AMHERSTBURGH—Lies in the township of Malden, on the river Detroit; the government have here erected barracks for troops, and is allowed to be a most eligible situation for a garrison.

ANCASTER.—This township is bounded to the eastward by Barton and Glanford, and to the northward by Dundas-street. The land of this township is in part excellent, though, as in many others, there is much indifferent soil. In truth that observation is applicable to almost every township in the province, and perhaps may extend to almost every division of the earth.

APPANEE RIVER.—This river benefits the country by some excellent mills; it runs through part of the township of Camden, dividing Fredericksburgh from Richmond, and ultimately empties itself into the bay of Quintè.

BASTARD.—This township lies to the northward of Lansdown and Leeds, and comprehends a very fine allotment of land. It is very thickly settled, and by many very respectable farmers; its situation from the river St. Laurence is from fifteen to thirty miles. From the river in the summer time is a tolerable good road, and in

the winter it is almost always good for sleighing: the produce of this country is generally brought out by sleighs in the winter season. There is as yet much unimproved land, which in general sells at a tolerable good price, from the circumstance of having so many inhabitants. Unimproved land here usually fetches from five to ten shillings per acre, and in some instances more.

BERTIE.—A township on the west side of Niagara river, in the county of Lincoln; it takes its name from the illustrious house of Ancaster, Bertie being the family name of the Duke of Ancaster, and the paternal property of that family lying in the county of Lincoln, in Great Britain. It lies on lake Erie, and is generally considered as good land.

BEVERLY.—A township within the west riding of the county of York, lying west of Flamborough. Its situation is inviting, and although not very thickly settled, must be allowed to be a very fine country.

BINBROOK—Lies in the county of Lincoln, and is situated between Saltfleet and Castor. Much good land is embraced in this township, but the settlement of it proceeds rather slowly; in truth all the new settlements cannot succeed with equal rapidity, from the want of settlers.

BLANDFORD—Lies in the west riding of the county of York, nearly opposite to the town of Burford. This situation is highly valuable,

valuable, and much admired, and derives great advantage from its contiguity with the river Thames.

BLENHEIM—Lies in the west riding of the county of York, nearly opposite to Burford; it derives its name from the celebrated residence of his grace the Duke of Marlborough, in Great Britain. It is a new settlement, but gradually gaining strength.

BURFORD—Lies in the western district, between Windham and Dundas-street. The same observations that have been made on Beverly seem to apply as to this settlement.

CAISTOR—Lies in the county of Lincoln, adjacent to Gainsborough, forms a valuable tract of land, and much enhanced by its communication with the river Welland. It may in short be said that almost every township embraces much good land, but the object of water in a new country ought to be the first consideration with the settlers.

CAMBRIDGE—Lies in the county of Stormont, in the eastern district; its inhabitants are, generally speaking, composed of Scotch emigrants. Its situation for raising cattle for the Montreal market attaches great value to it. The county is pretty well watered, and is naturally inclined to grass.

CAMPDEN EAST—Lies in the midland district, and north of Ernest-town; the land is good, and from its contiguous situation to Kingston is likely to be well settled.

CAMPDEN.—This township lies in the county of Kent, being on the north side of the river Thames; its situation is healthy, and attracts the eye of every traveller passing through it. Its situation is good, being well watered, and the soil congenial to grass.

CLARENCE—Is a township in the county of Stormont, in the eastern district, and is the fifth township on the Grand river as you ascend. The country is rather low, but is capable of great improvement, and would amply pay all expences of improvement, being so nearly situated to Montreal, and the passage by water always good in the summer, and the sleighing by winter. The ice is always good on the Grand or Ottawa river, arising from the coldness of the water, which comes from the north-west; the difference of the ice on the Grand river and the St. Laurence, within ten miles of each other, is astonishing, and the only cause is the waters coming from different quarters. The St. Laurence receives its waters from lake Ontario, &c. south-west, the Ottawa from the north-west.

CLARKE TOWNSHIP—Is in the county of Durham, and its front on lake Ontario; the front of this township is thickly inhabited, and the back partly so; it lies on the road from Kingston to York, which occasions its more numerous front settlement. The land is very good, and will in time be a valuable township; at present the roads are very indifferent, and the situation of the inhabitants as to market is rather remote.

CLINTON

CLINTON—Lies in the county of Lincoln, and is also on lake Ontario; it is well watered, and the soil in general very good.

COLCHESTER—Is a rich fertile township in the county of Essex, bordering on lake Erie. This country is rapidly settling, and must be considered as a most valuable tract.

CRAMAHE—Is in the county of Northumberland, and fronts lake Ontario. This forms a choice tract, and is very respectably inhabited, though I presume in no proportion so numerously in the back as in the front.

CROSBY—Is a township lying west of Bastard, in the county of Leeds, and is undoubtedly a fine township. The remarks made on Bastard are applicable to this settlement.

CROWLAND—Lies in the county of Lincoln, and has the full advantage of the river Welland, a new but thriving settlement.

CUMBERLAND.—This township lies on the Grand river, partly in the county of Stormont, and partly in the county of Dundas. There are here not many settlers, but they seem to be increasing; the local situation appears to ensure success.

DARLINGTON—Lies in the county of Durham, and adjoins lake Ontario; the country is good, and promises a more than commonly quick settlement, on account of its vicinity to York, the capital of the province.

DELAWARE—Is a township in the county of Suffolk, on the east side of the river Thames. The land in this neighbourhood partakes too much of pine timber to render it an object of immediate settlement.

DEREHAM—Is in the county of Norfolk, and is a township of tolerable good land, though settling but slowly.

DORCHESTER—Lies in the county of Norfolk on the river Thames, and varies but little from our description of Dereham.

DOVER—Is in the county of Kent, also on the river Thames (north side); the country is much to be admired, and from its advantageous situation will doubtless become a valuable settlement.

DUNWICH—Lies in the county of Suffolk, and has the advantage of being bounded on the north by the river Thames, and on the south by lake Erie. The country is here new, and wants nothing but increase of population to render it valuable.

ELMSLEY.—This township takes its name from the late Chief Justice Elmsley, and it lies on the Rideau lake in the district of Johnstown, and is represented as a more than ordinary fine tract of land. It has not been settled, nor even surveyed at present, but orders have been issued from the government for that purpose. It is generally said to be very good land, but mostly engaged to loyalists.

FINCH TOWNSHIP—Lies in the county of Stormont, eastern district, and a few miles back from the river St. Laurence, to the westward of Osnaburgh.

FLAMBOROUGH TOWNSHIP—Is distinguished by east and west Flamborough, and lies in the west riding of the county of York, and nearly adjacent to the Missasaga Indian lands.

FREDERICKSBURGH—Is in the county of Lenox, and lies in the rear of Ernest-town in the bay of Quintè. This township has undergone much improvement, and from its vicinity to the bay may fairly be expected to become an early settled place.

GAINSBOROUGH—Lies in the county of Lincoln, and is watered by the river Welland; the soil is good, and requires the improving hand of time only to render it a valuable township.

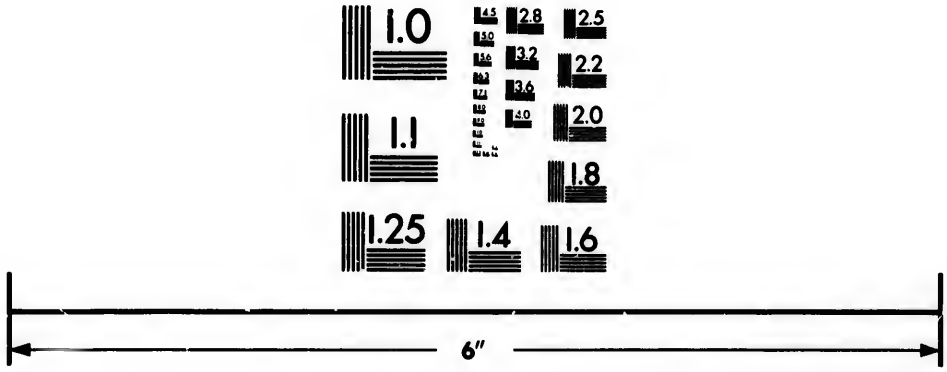
GLANFORD—Is in the same county, and is entitled to a similar remark as the last-mentioned township.

GLOUCESTER—Lies in the county of Dundas in the eastern district, and lies on the Grand river, and to the eastward adjoins the river Radeau. It is at present but thinly inhabited, but is in an eligible situation for settlement.

GOSFIELD—Forms a part of the county of Essex on lake Erie, and may be considered as a very valuable tract of land, though remotely situated for market.

GOWER

IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)



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GOWER—Lies on the river Radeau, is the second township as you ascend that river, and is rapidly settling.

GRANTHAM—Lies in the county of Lincoln, and fronts lake Ontario; its situation is good, and the soil of a good quality. This township is but indifferently circumstanced for roads, but has the full advantage of water communication, by means of the lake, into the river St. Laurence.

GRIMSBY—Is in the county of Lincoln, and also fronts lake Ontario; the observations on this township are the same as Grantham, the last-mentioned settlement.

GWILLIAMSBURG—Lies on lake Simcoe, forms a part of the home district, and is very thinly settled.

HALDIMAND—Is in the county of Northumberland, and lies on lake Ontario, a fine tract of land, and falling on the road between Kingston and York, promises an early settlement.

HALLOWELL—Lies also on lake Ontario, in the county of Prince Edward. There are many considerable farms in this township, and from its local situation will probably be early settled; the land in general is tolerably good, varying, though in much the same proportion as in the other townships.

HAMILTON—Lies in the county of Northumberland, fronts lake Ontario, and in its rear is bounded by the Rice lake. This settlement

settlement is advancing fast, but chiefly, I presume, from its local situation.

HARWICH—Is bounded on the south by lake Erie, and is in the western district; and is watered to the northward by the river Thames.

HAWKESBURY—Lies on the Grand or Ottawa river, in the county of Prescot. This township embraces a most valuable tract of land, and is flourishing rapidly; the inhabitants are very numerous, and the improvements great. Its situation is most eligible in the winter, always having good sleighing, and in the summer a safe communication to Montreal by water. There are already erected here very valuable mills, distillery, &c.

HOPE—Is in the county of Durham, and also fronts lake Ontario. This township is settling very fast, arising from its being on the line of communication between Kingston and York.

HOUGHTON—Lies in the county of Norfolk, on lake Erie; has a beautiful country around it, and is most inviting to a traveller. The beauty of this part of the province is very striking; the climate good, but has its *drawback*, a distant market.

HOWARD—Is in the county of Suffolk, bounded on the north by the river Thames, and south by lake Erie. This country is nearly similar to the last-mentioned township.

HUMBERSTONE—Lies in the county of Lincoln, on lake Erie, and is at present but little cultivated.

HUNGERFORD—Is in the county of Hastings (bay of Quintè), and varies but little from the description already given of tracts in that part of the province.

HUNTINGDON—Is in the same county (Hastings), and may be embraced in the same description.

KENYON—Lies in the county of Glengary, and is considered as a good township; it is chiefly inhabited by emigrants from Scotland, and appears to thrive very fast.

KING.—This township is in the east riding of the county of York, and lies in the vicinity of Yonge-street; a very thickly settled country, particularly in this part, which is inhabited by Quakers, a circumstance strongly recommending the settlement. The inhabitants are industrious, and very desirable neighbours.

KITLEY—Lies in the county of Leeds, and is a very respectable settlement: there are in this township a great many settlers, and among them many considerable farmers. This township is thriving very rapidly, and the land bearing a pretty good price.

LONDON.

LONDON.—This township is situated on a fork of the river Thames. Its situation is centrical in regard to the lakes Erie, Huron, and Ontario, and commands rapid improvement.

LONGUEIL—Is situated on the Grand river, in the county of Glengary, and is next adjoining to the lower province. It is the second township in ascending the Grand or Ottawa river; and is esteemed a very respectable settlement.

LOUGHBOROUGH—Lies in the county of Frontenac, north of Kingston, and is in part in a high state of cultivation. Its vicinity to Kingston renders the land of more value than the common run of townships.

LOUTH—Forms a part of the county of Lincoln, and lies on lake Ontario. From its remote situation it is not very rapidly settling, but has much advantage from its vicinity to lake Ontario.

MAIDSTONE—Lies on lake Erie; and the same observations, generally speaking, that have been made on the townships on that lake, apply to this settlement.

MALDEN—Is situated in the county of Essex, at the entrance of Detroit river. This is a flourishing settlement, and settles as rapidly as can be expected from its situation.

MARKHAM—Is situated in the east riding of the county of York, and lies to the northward of York. This settlement is highly

 advanced,

advanced, and is particularly inhabited by numerous German emigrants, who have long favoured this part of the province.

MARLBOROUGH—Lies on the river Radeau, in the district of Johnstown, and county of Grenville. It comprehends a very fine country of land, it is richly supplied with good inhabitants, the farmers here are far advanced in improvement, and have very considerable farms cleared.

MARYSBURGH—Is in the county of Prince Edward, and is bounded partially by lake Ontario, near the bay of Quintè. This township is thickly settled, and has many old and respectable farmers in it.

MERSEA—Lies in the county of Essex, on lake Erie, and is not inferior to the other townships on that lake.

MOHAWK VILLAGE—Is situated on the river Ouse, and is the chief settlement of the six nations of Indians; Captain Brant, one of the Indian chiefs, resides in this village. The situation is handsome; the Indians have here a church and school, both supported by the British government.

MOUNTAIN—Is situated in the county of Dundas, eastern district; it is well situated, and considerably improved. There are many respectable farmers resident within this township, and the land in general produces a good price.

MURRAY

MURRAY—Is in the county of Northumberland, it adjoins lake Ontario and the river Trent; it is settling gradually, and will doubtless keep pace with the adjoining new townships.

NEPEAN—Lies in the eastern district, on the Radeau river; the lands are, generally speaking, tolerably good; its situation for market good, being the first settlement on the west side of the Radeau river, from whence to Montreal the inhabitants have early and good sleighing in the winter.

NEWCASTLE.—This is a small town, situated on Presqu' Isle in lake Ontario, and forms a peninsula. The situation is good for trade, but is too narrow to admit of large agricultural extension.

NORWICH—Is a township in the county of Norfolk, and adjoins to Dereham. Land is here of the usual value of the country, but is not sufficiently advanced to admit of particular remark.

ORFORD—Lies in the county of Suffolk, and is the residence of the Moravian Indians. It is bounded on the south by lake Ontario, and on the north by the river Thames.

OSGOODE—Is on the river Radeau, in the county of Dundas, and eastern district. The lands on this river are nearly equal in point of general value.

OXFORD—Lies in the county of Grenville, on the river Radeau, and admits of the same remarks as the other townships on this river; much of the land valuable, and some the reverse.

PELHAM—Is in the county of Lincoln, and adjoins the Welland river. This township is not particularly remarkable.

PERCY—Lies in the county of Northumberland, and being in a very remote situation, not even joining lake Ontario, it requires no particular observations.

PICKERING—Lies on lake Ontario, in the east riding of the county of York; its situation gives it an advantage over many other townships, being within a few miles of York, the seat of government. Though at present no great advantage exists, at a future period it must be benefited.

PLANTAGENET—Is partly in the county of Glengary, and partly in Stormont; it lies on the Ottawa or Grand river, and is well situated for forming a settlement of importance.

PORTLAND—Lies in the county of Frontenac, north of Kingston, and forms a respectable settlement. Lands here are rather high, arising from local situation.

RAINHAM—Is situated on lake Erie, in the county of Norfolk, and being one of the new townships is not very populous at present.

RALEIGH

RALEIGH—Is also situated on lake Erie, and lies in the county of Essex: it is bounded on the north by the river Thames, and subject to the same remark as the last-mentioned township.

RAWDON—Is in the county of Hastings, and is at present but slenderly settled; the soil in general of the usual quality, part good, part indifferent.

REGIS, ST.—Is situated on the south shore of the river St. Laurence, nearly opposite to the town of Cornwall. This village is inhabited by Indians; they have a Roman Catholic chapel, a regular and highly respectable priest, whose influence over the tribe has produced the happiest effects.

RICHMOND—Lies in the county of Lenox, and is watered by the Appanee river. This is a new township, and settled in much the same proportion as others of the same description.

ROCHESTER—Is situated on lake St. Clair, and from its remote situation has at present but very few inhabitants.

ROMNEY—Lies on lake Erie, in the county of Essex, and may be embraced in the remarks on the last township.

ROXBOROUGH—Is situated in the county of Stormont, eastern district, in the rear of Cornwall. There is in this township much good land and many inhabitants; its situation is favourable, from the very numerous settlements around it.

SALTFLEET

SALTFLEET—Lies on lake Ontario, in the county of Lincoln, and is a township claiming no particular observation.

SANDWICH—Is situated on the Detroit river; it is a very early settlement, being originally formed by the French. The town is very respectable, as well in point of soil as inhabitants; they have a gaol and court-house, and a church of England clergyman settled there. This is the oldest settlement in Upper Canada; the climate is remarkably fine, and fruit of most kinds in great abundance.

SCARBOROUGH—Lies on lake Ontario, in the east riding of the county of York. The highlands of Scarborough are remarkable, and are visible many leagues from the shore. This is a very valuable township, arising from its contiguity to York.

SHAWNESE—Lies on the river Chenal Ecarté, and has the advantage of being more than usually well watered. This is a new township, and is said to embrace a very fine tract of land.

SIDNEY—Is situated in the county of Hastings, at the head of the bay; the soil is of the usual quality, and being situated between Kingston and York, must be considered a desirable situation.

SOPHIASBURGH—Lies in the county of Prince Edward, and forms one of the townships in the bay of Quintè. Its situation is valuable, from the causes mentioned respecting the last township.

SOUTHWOLD

SOUTHWOLD—Is in the county of Suffolk, and is bounded on the south by lake Erie. This part of the country has been before described, suffice it here to observe that the climate and soil are good.

STAMFORD—Lies in the county of Lincoln, and takes its name from a town of the same name, and in the same county, in England. Its situation is on the west side of Niagara river, in a very flourishing part of the country.

THOROLD—Is in the county of Lincoln, lying on the river Welland; it is well watered, and promises speedy settlement.

THURLOW—Lies in the county of Hastings, and adjoins the bay of Quintè (lake Ontario); the soil is good, but being remote from any market, settles but slowly.

TILBURY—Lies on lake St. Clair, in the western district, and is generally esteemed a good tract of land.

TOWNSEND—Lies in the county of Norfolk; and, being a new settlement, the quality of the land but is little known: its situation is good, lying to the north of Woodhouse, on lake Erie.

VAUGHAN—Is situated in the east riding of the county of York, northward of the township of York; the soil is much improved, and being so near to the seat of government, it may be expected to form an early and flourishing settlement.

WAINFLEET—Lies in the county of Lincoln, on lake Erie, and is a most delightful situation. It is particularly well situated for water, having lake Erie in front, and the Welland river to the north.

WALPOLE—Is in the county of Norfolk, and also lies on lake Erie; its situation is good, the soil favourable, and doubtless in a reasonable time will form a numerous settlement.

WALSINGHAM—Lies in the county of Norfolk, and is bounded by Long-point bay. This spot is much admired by most travellers, particularly Europeans; the soil is good, the society respectable, and seems to invite strangers with more success than the usual settlements.

WESTMINSTER—Lies on the river Thames, adjoining to London; its local situation is good, but, in common with other distant townships, proceeds rather slowly.

WHITBY—Is situated in the east riding of the county of York, on lake Ontario. Its vicinity to the seat of government commands particular advantages.

WHITCHURCH—Lies also in the east riding of the county of York, and adjoins to Yonge-street, a settlement of great importance in the neighbourhood of York.

WILLOUGHBY

WILLOUGHBY—Is in the county of Lincoln, on the Niagara river, from whence is a general communication with lake Ontario.

WINCHESTER—Lies in the county of Dundas, in the eastern district, and is much the same kind of soil as the other townships in the same district.

WINDHAM—Is in the county of Norfolk, and being a new settlement is but little known.

WOLFORD—On the Radeau river, is situated partly in the county of Grenville, and partly in the county of Leeds, in the district of Johnstown; the soil is good, and the township thickly inhabited. There are many very respectable farmers here, and land in general bears a pretty good price.

WOODHOUSE—Lies in the county of Norfolk, on lake Erie, and is, generally speaking, a good township of land, though thinly inhabited.

YARMOUTH—Is also in the county of Norfolk, and adjoins to lake Erie, and seems much to resemble the last-mentioned township.

THE END.

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