PROGRESS, SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1895.

THE MAGNIFICENT PARK OF THE

CELESTIAL OITY.

The Splendid Gift of the Donor of the Park ericton's Pride.

It is admitted that this is not the right season of the year to descant upon rural matters, but rather those that have to do with winter carnivals. It matters not, however, when a good subject presents itself. Edward H. Wilmot purchased from the O'Dell estate that portion of land at the upper end of the town, now and will to ever be known as the "Wilmott Park" em bracing 20 acres of land,

perhaps a little more. After having done so he placed the whole property into the hands of Mr. G. E. Fencty - in whom he had the utmost confidence -to lay it out as he might think proper for the purposes of a Park, wih a -carte blanche to spend as emuch money as would be required, in order that a fine pleasure ground might be provided for the citizens of Fredericton free of all expense, not only in he making, but perhaps the maintenance hereafter - a boon, the value of which, nosingle individual in the province has ever yet conferred upon the community in which he lived. It has been more a labor of love, as the writer is informed,

WHERE THE WEARY REST | pleasure in referring the matter to Mr. coping was removed to the front of the Wilmot. On doing so, Mr. W. not only | Park to serve as a margin for a future gave his consent but stated that it should | flower bed-diameter about 30 feet.

Although a great amount of work was not cost the club a cent and that he would have the ground prepared and p id for by done during the past season (costing about to Mr. Fenety, the Designer-A (raphic | himselt. Accordingly he directed that over \$2,000) much remains yet before the Park Description of the Place Which is Fred- an acre of ground should be ploughed and is completed. If all goes on well by next levelled and sown with grass seed to form fall the "Wilmot Park" will be a thing of a suitable crevass or perfectly flat sward for beauty and a joy forever to the inhabitants carrying on the games. Now this work of of Fredericton for it is believed all time to

Names have been given to the avenues In what way Mr. Wilmot intends duing the season, such as Prince of Wales to hand the Park over when finished, the It was in the month of May last when Mr. | (in the vic nity of which his royal highness | writer is not informed, whether as in passed through when here in 1860), Spruce Truro, N. S., it will be placed in the avenue, Bush, Grove, Wilnot Avenue, &c., hands of a commission or handed over diall of which in time will be inscribed on rect to the city council, it rests with himself to decide-very likely the commission govsign boards for direction.



VIEW IN WILMOT PARK.

on the part of the superintendent of | The picture where the large trees at e | ernment with the mayor, ex-officio, will be the work in his efforts to satisfy his r presented in the back ground shows the | the plan. But in whatever way managed principal, than from any other considera- pitch for the cricketers. The trees therein it will be for the benefit of the citizens and tion, unless it be in the great interest he contained are of unusual size and magni- in their interests exclusively. Its mainhas always taken in horticultural and floral ficence, supposed to have been planted by tenance is not yet clearly defined, but it is matters in particular. No pecumary com- the late Senator O'Dell's father, who died believed that Mr. Wilmot having already pensation could have induced the work un- in 1842, as Provincial secretary. These done such a magnificent thing, will not dertaken. Mr. Wilmot was aware of this have been turned to good account in the stop short of making or suggesting some at the beginning, and that it was the pas- laying out of the Park, roadways have mode for keeping the work going which time and pleasure and recreation which it been worked through them to suit the pur- | cannot amount to much more than enough pose. On the right hand of the figures to keep the Park in order, inasmuch as began on the western half, but not until and no litle expense, not so much to the In order to extend the drives, if the

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New Brunswick would consider this suggestion and bring it to the attention of his principals the object might be earried into effeet.

So much then for the Park. And now for another edition of Mr. Wilmot's great thoughtfulness. Having placed the laving out of the Park in the hands of Mr. Fenety and feeling satisfied with the work done, he could not rest contented without exhibiting his feelings for services rendered, by the presentation to him of a memento worthy of the acceptance of a prince-viz, a piece of plate, embossed in gold, which cost over than one hundred dollars, an illustration of which we here give. although it does not convey a full idea of the original. As the Fredericton Gleaner in its editorial columns gives a description of this beautiful work of art, the writer thinks he cannot do better than copy it: "The lamp was imported from New York and is one of the handsomest designs and costliest ever imported to this city. The lamp stands about 31/2 feet high, the base being ball-shaped about 10 inches in diameter, with two handsomely carved figures standing out from either side. The entire base is finished in gold. On one side of the ball is the inscription "Presented by Edward H. Wilmot to his friend George E. Fenety." On the other side: "A Memento of Wilmot Park, 1894." Above the base is a heavily cut glass oval which contains the cup for holding the fluid, and above this a duplex burner of the most modern pattern, the whole surmounted by an elegant heavily cut glass shade some 16 inches in diameter setting in a substantial gold rim. Needless to say Mr. Fenety is highly delighted with this substantial recognition on the part of Mr. Wilmot of his efforts to beautity Wilmot Park, and placed along side of the handsome Epergne, presented to Mr. Fenety by the citizens some years ago, when mayor, makes two very valuable and attractive house ornaments of which Mr.

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itself cost about \$70.

afforded.

It was towards the last of May when the exhibited is where the Prince of Wales' like a private garden, it will all have been work of planning and laying out the Park | fountain once stood-a work of genius | finished as before stated by the fall of 1895.

ate in July when possession could be had of the south part, as it had been under lease until the hay was cut, so that the main rcads could not be made and available until rather late in the season. No time was lost after that, for in less than three months upwards of two miles of -curriage drives and about a mile of walks were laid out and finished, and by tle end of August the Park was fully opened, informally, to the public, and was frequentel by hundreds of teams passing along the roads, the occupants app rently taking a great inter-

ing expressions of praise and gratitude to the very noble donor whose great philanthropy and generosity had afforded so much bushes were removed from the rear to the front of the Park, and 550 elms and in a couple of years leace when

these begin to develope there will be a green fringe presented all along dedightful to behold; and in ten years, say, walls of living green may be ridden through of unsurpassed beauty. A number of beds have been laid out for the reception of hardy shrubs to be imported and planted next spring. Then in front of the Park, directly opposite Government House, a space of 150 by 75 feet has been scooped out, in the centre of which has been placed a fountain, the pipes of which have been connected with the main water works pipe on the highway outside the Park. The bottom of the pond is covered with blue -clay, and when filled with water a miniature sea is presented to the sight, rendering the landscape very interesting. One of our engravings represents a pavilion or band stand, situated about 300 feet from and opposite Government House entrance. This was erected and beautifully painted at a cost of nearly \$400. About 3,000 feet ot fencing inclosing the Park and fne double gates on two sides have been built and artistically painted. Upwards of forty seats or benches, each capable of holding . 6 or 8 persons, have been made and placed in different parts of the Park-all of which, especially on Sundays, have been filled with visitors. Indeed, there have been times when upwards of 700 or 800 persons have been present (according to calculation) at one time, thus showing the great interest and pleasure the people are already taking in this great treat and retreat provided by Mr. Wilmot. Early in the season the Cricket club of Fredericton waited upon Mr. F.n.ty, through their captain, to learn whether or not it was possible to obtain land enough in the park for playing purposes, and the -club would prepare the ground at their own expense. Mr. F. said he would have great

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VIEW IN WILMOT PARK.

est and enjoyment within the limits, at d giv- | boss or originator, as to the workmen | owners of the land stretching above would whose fingers were sadly burned on that open a roadway from the old lane through occasion. The remains of this celebrated | to the St. Andrew's road, and plant a row tountain were disrupted last summer in | of trees on each side, the sale of many pleasure. Upwards of 300 small spruce laying out the cricket grounds, when not magnificent building lots would in time far much less than fifty cartloads of building | more than repay the outlay, while providstone (enough for the foundation of a build- | ing a most beautitul carriage drive in explanted all along the carriage drives, ing half the size of the Custom house) were tension of the Park and in connection exhumed, while the beautiful free stone therewith. If the agent of the estate in



Fenety teels justly proud." It is to be hoped that both gentlemen will live to enjoy for many years the work of their hands-the one for his great patriotism and generosity in performing such an unprecedented act in the interests of his tellow citizens, costing up to the present time, the writer learns, something like \$10.000, and to cost much more before he has turned it over; and the other for his fine taste in designing and laying out the Park which when finished will reflect upon him much credit.

The above article by your correspondent was written after a lengthy and interesting interview had with Mr. Fenety, who appeared to be full of life and enthusiasm in the work he has undertaken.

The engravings of the Park are made rom photographs taken by Mr. George Taylor, artist of Fredericton.



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