

with the greatest care. It may be unnecessary to say that Mr. Ballantyne, who surveyed the greater part of the townships in the Saguenay Territory, has had opportunities of forming an opinion much superior to mine.

Not having made any exploration on the north-east side of the Saguenay, I can express no opinion of the country behind the front settlements on that side. A very commanding view of it can be obtained from the high grounds behind Chicoutimi, embracing a great portion of the east end of the great basin of the inner Saguenay, in the centre of which Lake St. John is situated. Far to the right and left, and far to the north-east is seen stretching an extensive undulating or hilly plateau, apparently from four to seven hundred feet in height, presenting in many places indications of good land; such as is said to be found there in considerable tracts, and behind rises the vast range of the St. Marguerite Mountains; like a gigantic wall; apparently thirty miles distant, and three thousand feet in height.

From the best information I could obtain, combined with personal observation, I am led to believe that a proportion, equal on an average to one third part on the surveyed townships, is good arable land; and when the prevailing richness of the arable, and its freeness from stones, are taken into consideration, practical men will at once see that the value of that proportion of the land which is arable, is much greater than it would be were the soil as poor and stoney as in several parts of the Lower Province already settled or being so. In some of the