

waved spreading beeches and hardwood trees of various kinds. Over the entire picture fell the warm light of an August sun, and Franquet records the impression which this landscape made on him, by saying, that life in a spot so picturesque could not be otherwise than agreeable.

Less than a league above where now stands Mount Stewart, the barge came in front of a house built on the right bank and looking down on the river. Its situation had in a manner forced it to assume some of the duties of an inn, in those days of toilsome travel, being about midway on that route between Port Lajoie and St. Peter's. It was occupied by a widow named Gentil, whose hospitality was well known to the traveller. Here merchants and others were accustomed to halt for rest and refreshment. Immediately under the dwelling in a miniature estuary through which when the tide was low, in a bed worn in the slime, ran the limpid waters of a great spring which lay at some distance up in the woods, the barge was moored, and Sieur Franquet, before resuming his journey, found time to admire the luxuriant fields of grain that lay around the residence of Madame Gentil.

The portion of the journey which yet remained to be accomplished was of a most arduous character. From Madame Gentil's to St. Peter's Harbour, a road six or seven feet wide had been laid out. But it was a road without bridges, although it crossed swamps and streams. Beyond cutting down trees when the line lay through the forest, or removing stumps when the ravages of fire had destroyed the timber, man's labour had been studiously withheld from the work. The roadway itself owed nothing either to pick or spade, but bore unsoftened on its surface all the irregularities bestowed by wild nature. The old-fashioned choutte dragged along by two stout oxen, was the only conveyance that might venture on such a road. Two or three of these primitive vehicles were at the service of the travellers. They, however, seem to have used them only to cross the creeks and streams.

(TO BE CONTINUED)