

rising from the water, by the houses along its base, contrasted with overhanging cliffs, by a confused cluster of buildings overtopping each other up the side of the hill, and by the fortifications which crown the summit. The Saint Lawrence flowing on one side, and the Saint Charles on the other, give to this spot, the appearance of an island. The bridge across the latter is likewise visible from hence, and remote mountains terminate the prospect. The scene, in winter, becomes amusing to strangers, particularly, if the ice on the great river, between Quebec, and the opposite coast of Point Levi, be closely fixed, a circumstance which depends more upon accident, than on the severity of cold, and does not frequently occur. When the ice becomes consolidated and stationary, it is called, by the Canadians, the *pont*, which affords, not only to the country people inhabiting the neighbouring parishes on the south side, a facility of conveying their produce to market, and thereby of rendering provisions and provender more abundant in the town, but likewise presents to the citizens, a large field for gratification and exercise, who then are constantly driving their horses and carriages, upon the solid surface of the stream.

From the heights to the westward of the garrison, an extensive and beautiful view is developed, in summer, to the eye of the spectator. It is composed of the works, part of the loftier buildings of the town, the basin, point Levi, the island of Orleans, the south and north channels, the parishes of Beauport, Ange Gardien, and Chateau Richer, with the mountains on the north-east, stretching to Cape Tourment.

IVER MONTMORENCI.

The river Montmorenci, which empties itself into the Saint Lawrence, at the distance of eight miles to the north-east of Quebec, was called after a marechal of that name, who was viceroy of New France. Passing through a course from the north-east, of considerable length, the first settlement through which it flows, is called La Motte, situated on the northern extremity of a sloping ground, which gradually descends from the mountains, to the coast of the great river. At La Motte, the waters diffuse themselves into shallow currents, interrupted by rocks, which break them into foam, accompanied by murmuring sounds, tending to enliven the solitude and solemn stillness, which prevail throughout the surrounding forests, and on the desolate hills. The channel of the river, farther down, is bounded by precipitous rocks, it becomes extremely contracted, and the rapidity of its current is proportionably augmented. At a place called the *natural steps*, there are cascades of the height of ten, or twelve feet. These steps have been gradually formed, by the accession

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