

"I proceeded to the post, between the fourth and fifth ranges, on the range east of River du Loup, and prolonged this line to its junction with the west line of the township of Nouvelle. The soil which I met with along this line is still finer than that of the ranges already passed over, and to give an idea of it, I will say that it may be compared to that of Matapedia.

"The prevailing timber is the same as that lower down, that is to say, birch and maple; and, with the exception of the hill at the point of departure, the land, as far as Harrison Creek, is level. This hill is the last in this range. The east branch of the River du Loup and Busted Creek take their rise in the middle of the fourth range, in a grove of balsams, and beyond this the mountains disappear.

"Access to any of the ranges of these townships is made easier by the shanty roads along the different streams, which extend as far as the River Escuminac, and in one instance, to the head of the above named creeks; nor is there any difference in the roads, the land being the same everywhere.

"The valley of Harrison Creek in this range is wider and more shallow than in the ranges already gone through, and the land in this valley is exceedingly good. The timber is of enormous size; ash trees, for example, are met with as large as pines: the prevailing kinds are elm, ash, and birch. This valley appears to me to become larger towards the interior, and I do not doubt that in the adjacent ranges, it will appear still finer in character not as respects the quality of the soil, for it is impossible to find better, but from its greater extent of level ground. This creek supplies a considerable volume of water, and mills might be put in operation throughout its length.

"The further I advance into the interior the better I find the soil, and I am informed by credible parties, that there is equally good land as far as the River Escuminac in the interior; I judge so not only from the appearance of that which I found between the 6th and 7th ranges when I prolonged the rear line of River du Loup range east, but also from the opportunity which I had of seeing, from the summit of the mountain between the 5th and 4th ranges, into the interior of the township. From this point I remarked that a range of mountains extended from the south-east towards the north-west, at many miles distance, and that the ground sloped gradually from these mountains to the place of observation. From this I am led to believe that these mountains separate the river Escuminac on the north, and leave a very large extent of ground fit for immediate settlement on this side, towards the south-west."

Mr. P. L. S. Duval's Report on the Anse à Gilles Road Survey:

"As to the quality of the land, from the 5th mile to the 9th, along this road, it is but indifferent. As to the upper part, that is to say, that which is prolonged up to the Taché Road, it is well adapted for cultivation; the soil is not stony, and appears to be everywhere very rich. On the rear lines of the 5th and 6th ranges, which I have drawn, is a large and fine maple grove, on which have been established several sugaries. The soil in these two concessions is very rich, without rocks or stones; so that everything is in favor of the settlers. I do not hesitate to say, that it is the finest and largest tract of land which I have as yet passed through. It is in every respect well adapted for settlement.

"I have no doubt that if these lands were once known, they would not fail to be appreciated by a crowd of settlers, who would set about clearing them with zeal and ardor, and would derive from them considerable profit. As soon as the road shall have been opened for a sufficient distance, it is certain that colonization will advance in the township of Paton.

"Means of communication in this territory will be easy of attainment, for there is no considerable hill or inequality. There are, however, some gentle acclivities, which are by no means unpleasant. From the summit of these slight eminences, the eye contemplates with pleasure the vast extent of country which lies around, and which fills us with sentiments of admiration for the Author of so many wonders. The timber, in general, is tall and heavy. There are some cedar groves interspersed with balsams of large size."