

to look at the mill and embarked; gave a dollar to the people. Mr. McGill said Stone was too much of a gentleman to offer anything to. The saw mill he is building is to have 15 saws. He says there is a portage of only half a mile from the Gananoque to the Rideau, the Indians carry over it; that it is 50 or 60 miles to the Grand River; he said the hill behind Fairfield's house is the highest ground anywhere about in the country, the land descending from it every way. Fairfield said there is a fall 30 miles up the Gananoque 30 feet high, and many slight rapids.

[In the township of Ernestown and elsewhere in Canada many Fairfields were to be found, descendants of a U. E. Loyalist stock. [The Mr. Stone here mentioned was probably Mr. Joel Stone, also a U. E. Loyalist, originally settled in the province of Connecticut.]

About twelve the day grew fine and pleasant. Our Canadians are old and do not sing; however I made them sing "Trois filles d'un Prince," though indifferently. Captain Foster said to Mr. McGill the *Sophia* might be two months in one trip to Oswegatchis. In the afternoon got on to Captain Cowal's just opposite Point Oswegatchis, an admirable large room, six large windows in it twelve feet high. Captain Cowal spoke much of the weakness and unprovided state of the inhabitants in case of war with the States; he particularly mentioned as dangerous the circumstance of settlers, who call themselves residents under the King's government, but some whose loyalty is doubtful, building sawmills on the opposite shore. One Noneguell in particular, who had been a notorious rebel, and since his residence under the King's government was once confined at Kingston for improper behaviour, this man has a saw mill directly opposite this house, with many thousand boards cut. Mr. Cowal says these saw mills afford ample provision for rafts on which the Americans might pass over and ravage this country. A well known road through the woods from Oswegatchis to Crown Point or Lake George is so passable that 30 or 40 head of cattle pass with ease in eight days.

Wednesday, 17th—Embarked at six. Fine wind, showery. Passing first rapid at Gallop, very frightful. A little below Johnstown saw a deer and a canoe trying to overtake it; the deer swam to the shore and got ashore. Half past nine, passed Point Cardinal and Rapid Platt 20 mile. Half after three, Mr. McGill wanted to give a message from you to the Speaker, so we stopped for him to deliver it; and I take the opportunity of sending this book that you may know we got safe and well so far and had a pleasant journey.

May give this book to Mr. D. W. Smith to send back to me immediately, for I mean to make some pretty drawings from these rough sketches.

I should not have sent you this rough one but that I know you will be glad to know myself and the children are as well and as comfortable as is possible to be any where in your absence.

We have had a good deal of thunder and rain to-day. A thunder storm was hardly passed when we entered the Long Sault. Had it continued what a fine war of elements. The Long Sault is less alarming than I expected, but very grand and fine, and nothing but reason would keep me from being afraid. Your sight must be terrified though knowledge makes you rest satisfied.