

miles west of Montreal, It consists of a court house, a jail, a good lodging-house, a few private houses built along the public highway, also of a King's store-house or magazine.

The sites of both (*Johnstown and Cornwall*) were well chosen. The first is situated at the foot of the rapids and enjoys the expanse and fair waters of Lake St. Francis, while from the second at the head of the rapids vessels can sail to Queenstown on the Niagara River, and to all the other harbours and ports on Lake Ontario.

The women, children and heavy impedimenta were left here to permit us to travel more rapidly. We now soon covered the three miles to Prescott or New Oswegatchie, also facing the river, in the Township of Augusta. This village is well built on a rocky prominence. It is also known by its ancient name of La Galette.* The buildings are not remarkable in appearance, it is true, it is, however, the strongest military post we have yet come to. On the left of the village is an "embarras" or *cheveau de frise*, made with interlaced branches, to render its approach from that side more difficult. At a short distance from and behind the town earth-works are being thrown up with fascined embrasures, where heavy artillery will soon be mounted. These works are quadrangular in shape, surrounded by a moat. They will contain a redoubt, store-houses and casemated quarters for a goodly garrison. (It has since been named Fort Wellington.) To the west of the village there are also some batteries. The garrison at present consists of regulars and militia.

†On the south side of the river immediately opposite, on the banks of the Oswegatchie, are the ruins of an ancient fort, known to the English as Oswegatchie and to the French as Fort La-Présentation; contiguous to it is the handsome and prosperous town of Ogdensburgh. The Americans have batteries there.

Early on the morning of the ninth we reached Brockville (formerly Elizabethtown), 142 miles from Montreal. This village is undoubtedly the best built and prettiest yet seen on the way up. Its buildings are handsome, even elegant. It fronts Eliza-

*Point a la Galette is very often mentioned in the old French diaries from the time of La Salle; at one time a small fort or entrenchment existed there.

†Lt.-Colonel George MacDonell (Red George) commanded here. On the 22nd February preceding he had crossed over to Ogdensburgh at the head of his regiment of fencibles; he had put the garrison to flight, destroyed their barracks, armed vessels, and returned with 4 brass cannon and 700 stand of arms.