

FIRST DAY.

TUESDAY, August 22nd, 1871.

Take Provender for the Journey—Arrival at the Shanty—First Night in the Woods.

This morning my husband (Malcolm) and I started from our residence, near Spencer Wood, Quebec, on a "pleasure trip" to Lake St. John, the head-waters of the Saguenay. We had engaged a man (Ryan), horse and cart, from the Village of St. Colomb de Sillery, to carry our provisions and fodder for our three horses. An Indian guide named Honoré was to join us at Stoneham, 15 miles from town. Our coachman, Johnson, rode one horse, and started with the cart about four A.M. Malcolm and I, following them on horseback, did not leave home till eight, and then found that many things had been forgotten, which we ourselves were obliged to carry. Imagine Malcolm with a pair of shoes poking out of one pocket, and a sponge, brush and comb out of another; I had numerous small parcels tied to my saddle, besides a basket of sandwiches and a small bag, which I carried on my arm. The day was intensely hot, and our parcels gave us any amount of trouble; my basket lost its handle from the shaking it received, the shoes fell from Malcolm's pocket, and I thought to myself, "This is not a pleasant beginning."

We passed through a lovely country the first eighteen miles, when we reached Stoneham and overtook the cart and our men. Here we remained a couple of hours to rest and feed our horses, and to buy hay for the journey. We also eat some sandwiches, though the broiling sun had not improved their taste. (A week later, how much we should have enjoyed them!) After we had taken in the hay, Ryan's horse refused to draw the cart, so we harnessed Johnson's horse in front of Ryan's, and after much trouble and many stoppages, we travelled nine miles from Stoneham. Malcolm and I were tired of keeping with the cart, so we rode on in advance and put up our horses at a shanty belonging to one Lachance, whose wife seemed astonished to see such a party. We waited more than two hours for the arrival of the cart, and Malcolm and I walked back to find out what had detained it so long; it was dusk when we were all assembled. We then went to find a good camping place for the night, and I was much struck with the rapidity with which the