

MONTREAL TO QUEBEC.

Proceeding on for other eight miles, the steamer stops at one of the oldest settled towns in Canada, viz.:

THREE RIVERS, 90 miles from Montreal, being half way between Quebec and Montreal. Situated at the confluence of the St. Lawrence and River St. Maurice. Population about 5000. The most prominent buildings are the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches, a convent, jail, and court-house. Founded in 1618. After leaving Three Rivers the steamer proceeds onwards, and shortly passes the mouth of the St. Maurice River, which enters the St. Lawrence from Canada. The beautiful stream runs a course of some 400 miles in a south-east direction, frequently expanding and forming lakes of various sizes. Its banks are generally very high, varying from 200 to 1,000 feet, and covered with thick groups of variegated trees. It has a number of falls and cascades, and is adorned with several small islands. Its principal tributaries are the Ribbon and Vermillion, running from the west, and the Windigo and Croche Rivers, from the east. The next town reached is

BATISCAN, on the same side of the river, 117 miles from Montreal, and the last stopping-place before arriving at Quebec. Batiscan is reached at an early hour in the morning.

RICHIEUX RAPIDS.—The channel of the river where these rapids occur is very narrow and intricate, huge irregular rocks being visible in many places during low water. Beacon lights are placed at the most dangerous points, to aid the mariner in navigating these difficult passages, which extend a distance of 8 or 9 miles.

Pursuing our course, we pass the small settlements of St. Marie, St. Anne, Point Aux Trembles, and Port Neuf, on the north, and Gentilly, St. Pierre, Dechellona, Lothinière, and St. Croix, on the south side of the river. Nearly opposite St. Croix is Cape Sante.

CAPE SANTE is about 80 miles above Quebec, on the north side of the river; a small settlement called St. Trois being on the opposite shore. The banks of the river rise here almost perpendicularly to a height of 80 feet above the water, and extend back for many miles with an almost level surface.

CAPE ROUGE, 8 miles above Quebec, is next passed on the left, when the citadel of Quebec comes into view, presenting a sight at once grand and deeply interesting, from its historical associations.

CHAUDIERE RIVER, on the right, has a number of beautiful falls a short distance from its entrance into the St. Lawrence.

WOLF'S COVE, 2 miles above Quebec, is historically famous as the place where the immortal Wolfe landed with his gallant army in 1759, and ascended to the Plains of Abraham, where the heroic chief fell mortally wounded, just at the successful termination of one of the most daring enterprises ever chronicled in the annals of warfare.

On the opposite side of the river is Point Levi, a small town of about 1500 inhabitants. Here is the Quebec station of the Grand Trunk Railroad.

On approaching Quebec the character of the country again resumes a more picturesque appearance—the high banks and finely-wooded country showing to great advantage. Within a few miles of the City of Quebec some private residences may be seen embosomed amid the foliage, in romantic situations, on the heights above, on the north side of the river, and on nearing the city the port of New Liverpool may be seen on the right-hand, or south side of the river, with some large ships lying at anchor there, as well as all the way between there and Quebec; where, during the season of open navigation, immense numbers of large vessels may be seen waiting to discharge their cargoes, and load the timber of Canada for transportation to all parts of the world, but more particularly to Greenock, on the River Clyde, (Scotland,) and Liverpool, on the Mersey, (England).

Previous to arriving, the spot may be seen on the face of the embankment where the gallant Montgomery was killed whilst attempting to storm the citadel at that point.

The steamer, after rounding the high cliffs and Cape Diamond, takes a sweep round in the river, and lands its passengers, about seven o'clock in the morning, at the base of the Citadel of Quebec—the "Gibraltar of America."