

tired not to return with them. Charles and Johnson were now left alone with the horses, but Charles was too frightened to be of any use, so Johnson tied Jerry to the saddle of the first horse, because the horses constantly stumbled or strayed from the path to eat a bit of grass or a leaf, and Johnson could not catch them when on in front. The Indian did nothing but bring up the rear and showing Johnson where the horses fell, especially as he had often to leave all the horses to the Indian (Charles) whilst he went on to test the footing, and if he found the track impassable he struck into the bush, away from the blazed path. Many of the swamps were too dangerous for Johnson to walk over, let alone horses. He several times said to Charles, 'What made them fix on such swamps over which to make a road?' Charles constantly stopped to set mink-traps. In one place, while the horses grazed, Johnson had the curiosity to cut a long pole and try to find the depth of the swamp. *He easily ran the pole sixteen feet into the mud.* All the afternoon they followed a river, and towards evening came to a place where it crossed the track or road. It took some time to make a bridge to cross the horses, and, notwithstanding every available care, Katie fell through the bridge, and lay on her side with the water running over the saddle. Fortunately she had the sagacity to remain quiet till Johnson and Charles released her from the debris, and then the former got her safely up the bank. All next day, Friday, they went on as usual over rocks, stumps and stones, to the imminent peril of life and limb. They passed a shanty, but did not stop there. They saw a mile post, and about five p.m. came to a broad, deep river, which Charles said was La Rivière-aux-Ecosses, though Johnson rather doubted it, Charles having told him two days ago that they had crossed that river. However, they found it would be impossible to reach the other side till more men arrived, so Johnson fastened the horses to some stumps, and then proceeded to make out whether Felix had crossed. He found his foot-marks and saw a kind of raft moored on the other side of the river. He then returned, and, after lighting a fire, went to the left of the road and found a little grass. He and Charles fished, but caught only six small fish. However, they found more grass for the horses, and after cooking the fish they rested for the night.

On Saturday they spent the morning in looking at the river. Johnson with Charles made a small raft in order to cross the river, and see how Félix had landed, as he had gone along the track all right. They took the raft about a mile down the river, to the left of the road, where they saw rapids.