

ed into three chief districts, Quebec, Montreal, and Three-Rivers ; and two inferior ones, Gaspé and St. Francis ; these are further divided into 40 counties, with minor subdivisions of seigniories, fiefs, townships, &c.

The external appearance of Lower-Canada generally is of a most majestic character. Inanimate nature is there exhibited on the grandest scale ; her rivers, her lakes, her forests, every thing is vast, and must appear to the native of the British Isles, particularly so. From the mouth of the river St. Lawrence to the neighbourhood of Quebec, on both sides, are very high mountains, and from the bottom of these to the edge of the river, on the south side, lies a level tract of land gradually advancing to cultivation ; and from Kamouraska to Quebec, is thickly settled. The district of Gaspé, which is situated at the south side of the river St. Lawrence, near its mouth, is only thinly settled, having a population of about 15,000, and near 20,000 acres of cleared land. I believe a large proportion of that district is capable of profitable improvement, and its fisheries should be most valuable to an industrious population. From the western boundary of Gaspé, to the east of the Chaudière river, which discharges into the St. Lawrence, a few miles west of Quebec, is a territory of considerable extent, fronting on the St. Lawrence for 257 miles, and extending back to the boundaries of the province of New Brunswick, and of the United States. Though this section of the province is not so mountainous as the opposite bank of the St. Lawrence, it may properly be characterized as a hilly region, abounding with extensive valleys of excellent land, very capable of improvement, and suitable for settlement. It is divided into four counties, Rimouski, Kamouraska, L'Islet, and Bellechasse, which have a population of 60,000 only, 295,000 arpents of cultivated land, and near 10,000,000 arpents of uncultivated land. On the north bank of the St. Lawrence, there is scarcely any settlement east of the river Saguenay, and from that river to Quebec, a distance of about 100 miles, and extending many miles back, there are two counties, Saguenay and Montmorency, with a population of 15,500, and 70,000 arpents of cultivated land, and over 11,000,000 arpents of waste (which are included in my tables ;) but the wild land within the boundaries of these counties is three times that extent. This part of the province, partly on the Saguenay, and on the shores of Lake St. John, particularly, is very favourably reported of for settlement ; and though the climate may be severe in winter (I do not allude to any land north of $48\frac{1}{2}$ degrees) the country, I believe, possesses many advantages for new settlers. The Saguenay has a course of 180 miles from Lake St. John, and is navigable for the largest ships for nearly half that distance. There are some fine islands in the St. Lawrence from the mouth of the Saguenay to Quebec. The island of Orleans is close to Quebec, contains 28,500 arpents, and a population of about 5,000. It is a beautiful island, and is well cultivated generally.

The country on the south bank of the St. Lawrence for more than 200 miles below Quebec, assumes a most charming aspect. There is a continued succession of villages, handsome churches, telegraph stations, and farm houses, all whitewashed, and produce a most pleasing effect, in contrast with the dark forests which clothe the back rising hills to their summits. There cannot be a more interesting and beautiful land-