

## INTRODUCTION.

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At the request of many friends both here and in England, I give to the public the following Diary. Before undertaking the journey, I was entirely unaware that the "Road" had been a subject of political discussion. The fact is, that I wished, having heard so much of it, to experience the sensation of "roughing it in the bush," but before starting I was under the mistaken impression that there really was a road, and a good road. Had I been aware of the truth, I would never, for a single moment, have entertained the idea of traversing such a country. So many asked me for an account of the novel and venturesome journey, that I decided on publishing my Diary, not that it contains anything very extraordinary, but that it recounts the history of the first journey made by a woman from Quebec to Lake St. John, for the most part on foot, through over a hundred miles of wild, untravelled, wooded and mountainous country. In it I have detailed the facts as they occurred, and in doing so I have not drawn on my imagination, but simply confined myself to their narration. The hardships we endured can easily be credited by those who have had occasion to pass through Canadian forests. In conclusion, I repeat that in making this Diary public, I do so without the slightest pretension or political feeling, at the request of my friends, who are anxious for its perusal. The general reader, I hope, will find in it something new and interesting.

N. D.

Quebec, March, 1872.