

national importance and value of the railway to La Tuque.

Seventy miles of steamboat navigation on the St. Maurice, will, in connection with the new railway, make a round trip for tourists as beautiful and picturesque and almost as grand as that of the Saguenay. When a new passenger steamer with all modern improvements has been placed upon the St. Maurice, it will be possible for tourists to make the round trip from Quebec to La Tuque and back in part of one day, leaving the city after breakfast, by Quebec and Lake St. John Railway for La Tuque, connecting there with steamer for Grandes Piles, thence to Three Rivers by rail reaching that city in time to take the afternoon train for Quebec or Montreal, which will be reached in time for dinner.

The railway will be a first class one in every respect, suitable for hauling heavy trains of lumber, no grade exceeding one per cent and no curve sharper than eight degrees. The bridges are of steel and masonry of the heaviest specification, and the rails, which have all been purchased and delivered, are of steel of the standard weight.

The work of construction is in the hands of Mr. Joseph Paquet, the well-known contractor, of Levis, who expects to complete it, as already stated, by December next. During the whole of the present winter some 400 men have been constantly employed in clearing, grading—in the heavy cuttings—rock cutting,