

and yielding in beauty to none. The nearer we approach to the frontier, the greater the appearance of prosperity ; and there the earliest settlements were made.

This extensive territory is abundantly watered : by the Saint Francis which has two main springs, namely, Lake Saint Francis, situated between the counties of Megantic and Sherbrooke, and Lake Memphramagog, upon the frontier of Vermont ; by the rivers Nicolet, Bécancour, Chaudière, and by others less considerable. The river Magog, passing through the town of Sherbrooke, furnishes water-power to several manufactories of cotton, wool, iron, paper and pails. As soon as the Railroad reaches that point, the water-power of the Magog, which is considerable, will add greatly to the importance of the town. The river Bécancour might be easily made navigable, by means of a cheap canal, from the falls in Inverness to Black Lake, a distance of only five miles. From this point, the Saint Francis, watering the Townships of Garthby, Weedon, Dudswell, Westbury and Ascot, affords a cheap and easy means of communication with Sherbrooke, in the very heart of the Eastern Townships. The importance of this water communication, which passes through a tract of country, a hundred and one miles in length, may easily be conceived. It opens out to the labours of the agriculturist, and the enterprise of the merchant, the beautiful valley, watered by the Bécancour and the Saint Francis, destined to become one day one of the richest sections of the Eastern Townships.

Throughout the vast tract of country we are describing, we find a great number of petty streams, affording water power, which might be turned to profitable account, with no great outlay of capital. Here we may remark, that the Townships are free from the burthens of the Seigniorial Tenure ; and we accordingly find mills and factories, in all the settled parts of the country. They are therefore destined to become the seat of manufactures ; and the abundant water-power will be a perennial source of wealth.