

Trade in Negroes, by forcing a portion of our Species to enter into the class of the inferior Animals formed for the service of Man, is an actual infliction upon humanity, yet we behold in our own vicinity unfortunate creatures reduced below their natural condition and excluded from Society, become the prey of a few individuals who confining their views to their pecuniary interest exercise over them much more absolute dominion than that of the Virginia Planters. The Slave knows that Laws exist which at least protect his existence, but of that our Indian has not the slightest idea. The number of those unfortunate persons who die of hunger and want, would be yet more considerable, if the humanity of the Servants of the Company of the Posts did not frequently supply their wants.

Such is the afflicting description which my feelings have compelled me to submit to the Committee, the melancholy nature of which is enhanced by the consideration that it appears to be wholly unknown. The impression left on the minds upon viewing the scene is intensely painful. How long such a state of things is to continue it is in the power of the Committee to decide by the measures they may suggest to the Legislature for remedying such pressing Evils.

Not having means to carry my researches farther I closed my Journey at a place called Moulin Baude, which is about One League and a half below Tadoussac following the course of the Saint Lawrence. This place is remarkable for a Quarry of Marble which is of excellent quality and very considerable in quantity. I removed some Fragments from the external Beds which I found susceptible of a high polish, and which do not appear to me inferior to that which is extracted from the Mines on the Hudson and Lake Champlain, and I do not doubt that on penetrating further it would be found of a very superior quality. I had a Lamp made of it which is also in my Museum, and which the Committee may inspect at their leisure. Over the Bed of this Marble Quarry a Rivulet flows sufficiently copious to turn a Mill for sawing and cutting the Marble in the Quarry itself.

Mr. *John Malcom Fraser* was called in and examined, and answered as followeth :

I have visited that part of the Coast of the Saint Lawrence which extends from Malbaie to the River Saguenay, and have had opportunities of judging of some parts of the interior of the Country.

A Tract of Land extending about Six Miles along the Banks of the Saint Lawrence from the mouth of the River aux Canards to that part of the Saguenay, and reaching back to the Mountains, which are apparently from Five to Six Miles distant from the Coast, affords every local facility for Settlement ; and they who have had the best opportunity of obtaining information respecting the quality of the Land, say, that the greater part of it is of the richest description, and that from One hundred to One hundred and fifty Families might be comfortably settled on it.

The Black River runs through a very extensive and fertile tract of level Land, the greater part of which is on the King's Post side of the