

waters, the projecting points of the Lake, and the grandeur of the surrounding scenery, attracts the attention of the traveller. The land on either side of the Lake consists of Pine, Birch, Beech, Maple and a variety of other Trees. The Western shore would appear somewhat more level as the mountains recede from the Lake in about a south-west course. Besides the cluster of Islands, there are three or four other Islands mostly dispersed along the eastern shore. There are on that side of the Lake a few small streams, one in particular called *Wagansir*, which communicates by portage with some branches of River Mataue. On the Western shore there are also one or two streams which water the interior of the country.

This Lake, with a league in depth around it, was granted under the Feudal system in May 1694, to Nicolas Joseph Damour, and now appertaining to ——— Grant, Esquire and others:—It is a valuable tract of country, and would doubtless become by due encouragement to Settlers a flourishing part of Canada, as the Lake with other advantages, possesses abundance of Salmon, Trout and White Fish.

On the whole, I have remarked, it is navigable for Rafts of all kinds of Timber, with which the banks of this noble River are in various parts thickly covered. The Rapids in some places of the River, although of magnitude, will cause no injury or impediment to Rafts going down to the Ristigouche, while Canoes can ply during upwards of seven months between the Portage and the Indian Village. The country is in the greatest part wild and barren, the soil and timber are however of the best quality. The scenes which present themselves along the shore of the *Matapedia*, are in some places of a romantic description, and in others so beautifully picturesque, that they cannot fail to interest the spectator. It is in many places diversified with numerous Islands and handsome windings, sometimes its waters are contracted between stupendous mountains, at others they are expanded to a great extent between a fine open country.

The portage which communicates from the head of the Lake to the River St. Lawrence, is traversed by one or two prominent ridges of Mountains; the one near to the Lake called *Les Montagnes de Notre Dame*, commands a view of the whole Country to the Southward which appears to extend tolerably level for many miles.—The other is situate about half way across the Portage between the Rivers *Tuctigoo* and *Tuctigoochiche*, and the last highlands and the most remarkable are those which bound the St. Lawrence. The land throughout the Portage is commonly good for cultivation, with the exception of a few spots of Swamp and a few steep Mountains, which however could be easily obviated by making a circuit of the Mountains or causewaying the swampy portions. In particular as regards the Portage, which is at présent merely an irregular Indian Path, I would refer to Mr. Mann from whom the principal information can be derived, as well as the corroborative report of the explorers who traced the Country from the Mission to the River St.