

Enough—perhaps too much of Illinois.

By noon we reached St. John's, of which still less may serve, and we did but drive through it for La Prairie—a considerable town on the St. Lawrence, nine miles above Montreal.

The rest of the company, among whom were several ladies from Carolina, crossed directly over, in a drizzling rain; but I, being no longer impatient of delay, as this is a considerable town of long standing, with a large French church, and other public establishments, stayed over night, and slept, though it was midsummer, under I know not how many blankets, in a bed close hung with worsted curtains, in flaming red.

I was now ready to doubt whether it ever was what we call hot, in Canada; but I had occasion afterward to change my mind upon that score, as well as some others, as will be seen in due time. Rapid travellers are apt to be hasty in forming their conclusions, of which, in course, plodding critics take notice at their leisure, without making one grain of allowance for the innumerable perplexities and contrarieties through which we have to pick our way in the research of truth.

Next morning the sun glittered upon the tinned spires and plated roofs of Montreal, many of them being sheathed with sheet-iron. I was told that the passage by water was tedious, and that a waggon would convey me much quicker to the ferry opposite the town. I went on accordingly to Longueuil, and crossed over from thence, in a canoe, which was managed by two diminutive Canadians, with Indian paddles.

MONTREAL

shows from the water like an old country sea-port, with long ranges of high walls and stone houses, overstoppered here and there by churches and convents, with something that resembles a continued quay, though it is nothing more than a high bank, to which large vessels can lie close enough for the purposes of loading and unloading, in consequence of the unusual depth of water at the very edge of the current, which sets close in-shore from an opposite island, and a string of rocks and shoals, which obstruct it on the opposite side.

I took a hasty dinner, glanced at the public buildings which I had seen before, and walked the streets till night, when the principal avenue, in which is the cathedral, was lighted up, before dark, in the English manner, the twilight being almost as long here as it is there. I then took up my lodging on-board the steam-boat, for Quebec, which was to sail next morning at three o'clock; for I had now a mind to see in how short a time one might make a total change of religion, language,