

and the expense of bringing it into the market have hitherto acted as a bar to operations.

The river Saguenay itself runs almost at right angles to the Saint Lawrence, on a generally straight course from Lake St. John, flowing to the south-east. The country is rugged from the St. Lawrence, until Ha-Ha-Bay is reached. Mr. Buies gives a detail of the several townships. It was on the north shore, on the banks of the river Saint Margaret, that the first modern settlement was made in 1840, and as the land above Ha-Ha-Bay is good, settlement turned in that direction. It does not, however, seem to have been carried to any extent above the junction of Lake St. John with the river. Indeed, the north shores of the lake have not been surveyed. The soil there is highly spoken of. But the land has generally been taken up in the townships on the front to this extent. On the south shore the country is cultivated some distance beyond the village of Chicoutimi, the number of inhabitants gradually decreasing as the lake is reached.

The ancient name of the Saguenay was Pitchitanichetz. The tide ascends for about eighty-four miles above the mouth of the river to the foot of a series of rapids, one hundred and five miles, or so, from the discharge of the waters of the lake. The first part of the river is sufficiently striking. It cuts the main ridge of the range of Laurentides, which give a majestic appearance to the scenery of the north shore of the Saint Lawrence. From Lake St. John to Chicoutimi, the river runs with the strata, whence it turns to traverse the parallel ridge of hills and mountains which are met between that place and the Saint Lawrence. These hills, worn by glacial action into harmonious outline—what geologists call of 'a mammelated' character—one clothed with evergreens, consisting of pine and spruce. Hardwood is met on the lower elevations and in the valleys. Even therefore, in their

savage loneliness, the scene is constantly striking—for it is ever changing as it is differently viewed. Two of the highest of these peaks have been christened Cape Eternity and Cape Trinity, and are from fifteen to eighteen hundred feet high. They are bold, abrupt precipices, and form the most striking feature of the river; their outline is even assisted by the comparative narrow flow of the stream below them; and with their marked outline, the scattered foliage and the clear rock escarpment, having frequently the appearance of having been obtained by artificial means, there are few more striking views in Canada than the first few miles of the Saguenay, as seen from the Saint Lawrence.

We have now arrived at a date within a quarter of a century of the present day. The river was by this time better known, and the landscape was more a matter of fame. Moreover, its capabilities as a place of business commenced to be considered as a field for enterprise. In 1837, the '*Société des vingt-et-un Associés*,' was formed, under the auspices of Mr. Alexis Tremblay, and in 1838, an attempt was made at the colonization of la Grande Baie. But the settlers seem to have been easily discouraged. Mr. Buies' words are worth preserving. Do they point to the indifferent success which seems to attend French Canadian attempts at colonization? There cannot be a doubt but there is little tendency among the modern French Canadians to seek fresh localities, strikingly at variance with the bold enterprise of their sires, and that it is no want of a field for settlement, which leads so many to seek their fortunes elsewhere. Men, who go into the bush, cannot look for that social element of life which constitutes one of its chief charms. But there is gained what is a higher and a nobler inspiration—independence. There is no feeling equal to the sense of manhood, which leads the owner of his homestead, be it what it may, to say