

for cultivation, and needing nothing to render them valuable, but the application of a good system of drainage.

The features of the country which we are describing, are in general varied and exceedingly interesting. No one can have travelled from Port Saint Francis to Rock Island, especially in summer, without experiencing the most delightful impressions. What are the scenes, which do, in fact, present themselves, as we advance into these Townships? Here a valley whose fertility is strangely contrasted with the gloomy aspect of the forest we have left, there the eye rests in the distance on a swelling hill no less fertile, whose easy slope we may ascend almost without perceiving it. We follow the course of the Saint Francis. At certain points the level ground is limited to the breadth of the road: on one side, we see hundreds of feet below us, the Saint Francis, on the other we are hemmed in by a steep precipice rising far above our heads. Issuing forth from a defile, the perils of which are not devoid of attraction, we come upon a reach of the river here widened by an island, smiling with verdure; on one hand, we have a solitary farm-house, or a little hamlet whose neatness and even elegance may smooth the brow of the most ardent speculator; on the other a cascade, a factory, a mill, around which are grouped elegant and tasteful dwellings, and, no uncommon object, a pretty village church.

There are a considerable number of villages in the inhabited part of the Townships, and each distinguished by its particular kind of beauty. In one, the surrounding landscape charms the eye; in another the buildings, constructed, in a varied and capricious style; while of a third the most striking feature is its situation, at the foot of a mountain, on the border of a lake. Every Township, in any degree settled, has its village, some possess two. In the Township of Ascot, are Sherbrooke and Lennoxville; in Shipton, Richmond and Danville; in Grantham, Drummondville; with many others, scattered throughout the various Townships. The town of Sherbrooke is but a village more considerable than the rest,