

## CHICOUTIMI.

ness for about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. and is embanked by high rocky hills rising to about 200 feet; there the mountains terminate, resting about the region of L. Kenwagomi. The land on the banks then becomes level and appears to improve being timbered with spruce, fir, pine, a few elms and cedar. Occasionally on the left, when the fire has burnt up the vegetable mould, the soil is discovered to be rocky and barren.—About  $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. below the Portage des Roches is the *Portage de l'Islet*, or *Ministouki Caputagan*, so called from an islet in the middle of the r.; this islet is longer than the portage which is about 700 yards and lies through good land, a rich dark loam timbered with black birch, spruce, pine and ash. The river is then divided into two channels by a large island; the s. w. channel is broken by cascades and rapids, and the n. e. is a long rapid, which is frequently passed down by canoes.—From the foot of this portage to the *Beau Portage*, or *Milow Caputagan*, is two miles; the river averages about 80 or 90 yards wide, its right bank being high and rocky, while its left is good soil timbered with elm, ash, spruce, birch and pine. On approaching the Beau Portage which lies on the right bank the land is a light, coarse, yellow loam possessing a great proportion of sand and is timbered with spruce, white birch, pine and some elm. Beau Portage, about 250 yards long, lies through tolerable land, chiefly sandy loam timbered with white birch, red pine, poplar and spruce and avoids the cascades about 20 feet in elevation.— $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles hence is the *Portage de l'Enfant*, or *Washkow Caputagan*; the banks of the r. exhibit in this distance much improvement in soil and timber, the former generally an argillaceous loam and the latter spruce, elm, ash, fir, pine, black and white birch and some cedar. The river, which varies from 4 to 6 chains in width, is occasionally interspersed with well-timbered islands, most of which are alluvial. The general course of the river between Beau Portage and the Portage de l'Enfant is about n. n. w.; between these portages the latest explorer met a canoe containing an Indian family; their astonishment at beholding a canoe of strangers was singularly expressed by a smile or rather a silent laugh, for which peculiarity the Montagnais nation is distinguished by the Indian name Papinashuah, which signifies laughers or sneerers. Four miles from Portage de l'Enfant is *Isle au Sepulchre*, which derives its name from having been the

burying-place of two persons who were drowned. The Portage de l'Enfant, about 200 yards long, is so called from an accident which occurred about 50 years since to an Indian, who, in passing this portage, left a young child in his canoe which was carried off by the current and passed over a very considerable fall without upsetting, to the great surprise of the father and of all who have seen the place. The Falls of l'Enfant are between 40 and 50 ft. taking the cascades collectively. The portage lies over tolerably good land, a yellow loam timbered with spruce, ash, cedar, poplar, elm and pine. From the lower landing it is but 20 chains across the basin at the foot of the falls to the *Portage du Chien*, on the right bank of the river.—The *Portage du Chien* also about 200 yds. in length, leads over very good ground and avoids a cascade of about 15 feet in height; it is timbered with cedar, fir, birch, red spruce, white and red pine. The land down the r. preserves that character of fitness for settlement which it more or less exhibits from the Portage de l'Islet, and a few streams discharge themselves on both sides.— $1\frac{1}{2}$  m. farther down is the landing at the *Portage de la Poussière* or *Mein Caputagan*, vulgarly called Ka-Ka, at the head of a high fall which at its edge is divided by a small island. The portage is nearly 200 yds. long and the falls about 45 ft.—At the *Portage of Chicoutimi*, above the falls, the river contracts to less than 25 yards while opposite the portage it is about 120. This portage is about a mile below Ka-Ka. The land in that distance is of an excellent description and the timber is elm, ash, pine, fir and some white birch. The *Portage of Chicoutimi* or *Shekatimish Caputagan*, 2 m. in length on the left bank of the river, is very level with the exception of a gulley formed by a small rivulet near its s. w. end.—The *Falls of Chicoutimi* are about 40 or 50 ft., tumbling through a contracted channel over the rocks that interrupt its rapid course into the basin that forms part of the harbour of Chicoutimi.—From an eminence, which overlooks the harbour, the noble stream of the Saguenay is seen to flow in majestic silence towards its confluence with the St. Lawrence. Although not possessing the bold features of L. Kenwagomi, the great breadth of the river, the striking scenery, the group of buildings in the foreground and the small solitary chapel on the adjacent eminence, form a combination of most interesting objects.—The banks of the Chicoutimi