

Land Route

by coach from New Glasgow will take you through a picturesque country of hills and dales, fertile and well cultivated farms, and overshadowing forests. You will see Antigonish, a quiet and lovely village. It is the seat of St. Xavier's college. It contains a handsome Catholic Cathedral, and Presbyterian, Episcopal, and Baptist churches. It is the centre of a fine agricultural country. You pass through the fertile meadows of 'Tracadie, and have an opportunity of seeing how much the houses, barus, farms, and people resemble what you have seen in Lower Canada. Everything is Acadian French. It is a fine country, but bare—the tree having been persecuted off the face of the land. The houses are low and small, with large windows. Here and there are lovely bits of scenery, especially where the view opens out on the gulf, and where the horizon eastward is shut in by the bold headlands and hill-ranges of Cape Breton. The iron horse will in a few years supersede the four-horse team, which now takes you over the road at the rate of 7 miles an hour.

Two or three times a week you can proceed by sea, in a safe and comfortable steamer from Pictou to Port Hood or to the

Strait of Canso

where the land route has led you. Here you see much to charm the eye. The Strait winds peacefully between bold headlands. Cape Porcupine towers high above the rest, and from its forest crowned summit the Telegraph wire was stretched across the Strait, before the days of submarine cables. Under the shadow of Cape Porcupine you are ferried over to Plaister Cove, or Port Hastings, whence three or four mail routes start for different parts of the island. A more striking and beautiful scene is seldom witnessed than the Strait of Canso on a summer morning. Ships, great and small, steamers, schooners, brigs and brigantines, whale boats &c, plough the glassy surface. The limit of our horizon on the Nova Scotia side is a clump of masts and a few houses marking the neighborhood of Port Mul-