

In exploring the Country to the right and left of the Portage I proceeded as far as three leagues distant from it, and found the general appearance of the Country very uneven, being a continued succession of mountains separated by cedar swamps, extending in many instances from one or two leagues, and my guides informed me they were much more extensive.

Q. What is the quality of the soil and its susceptibility of cultivation ?

A. The swamps when cleared and drained would prove valuable as meadow Lands, the soil being in many places very deep ; but the mountainous parts with little exception are very rocky and gravelly, consequently but little suited to the purposes of Agriculture, there are however spots of some extent every here and there covered with sugar maple and other hard wood well worth attention ; but so long as the road remains in its present truly wretched state, the man must be little less than Insane who settles upon it without promises of great assistance.

Q. What description of Timber did you observe ?

A. The timber found on this tract is principally composed of cedars, *Sapins*, Pines, Hemlock and Bals, interspersed with a few groves of Maple and a sprinkling of Beech or Birch.

The trees are in many places of an unusual size, particularly the Cedars, some few Pines and Hemlock.

Q. What are the animal, vegetable and mineral productions of this tract of Country ?

A. I saw no animals except a very few Birds ; tracks of Bears, Deer, Rabbits and one Beaver Dam were to be seen and my guides who go out every winter to hunt for those animals as well as the Martin, Otter and Musquash, say they are not very abundant, and that they are evidently decreasing in numbers.

With regard to the vegetable productions there appears to be no variation from those which are to be found in the neighbourhood of Quebec.

As to minerals I had no time to make any particular search after them, and the only production of any importance that I am aware of, is a bed of excellent lime found on the shore of Lake *Temisconata* by Colonel Fraser.

Q. What was your Route ?

A. I went from Quebec near to Kamouraska by water, and from thence by land to Long's at the end of the Portage, which I sketched as I went along.

Q. What is the character of the River *Madawaska* its size and navigability ?