

some instances much exaggerated, began to draw the attention of the inhabitants of more distant parts towards them, and the afflicted catching with renewed hope at the golden fruits of health which they held forth, sought the Springs to test their virtues.

For the accommodation of these visitors a house was erected; but so poor and wretched was the provision for their reception, that when, after traversing roads almost impassable, and being compelled in many cases to be conveyed through the woods on rude litters, they did arrive, the place seemed to threaten an aggravation rather than an amelioration of their maladies. But in spite of all these obstructions and disadvantages, numbers flocked to them, and became living proofs of their wonderful efficacy, stamping the rumour of their virtues with the seal of truth.

In 1835, the Caledonia Springs were purchased by Mr. Lemuel Cushing, (on account of himself and others); and their good properties had become at this time so extensively known, that nothing but their almost original desolateness of appearance, and difficulty of access, prevented their being frequented by a better class of visitors. Regular roads had not been formed, the usual approaches being mere tracks through a swampy forest, and their passage was a matter of considerable inconvenience and fatigue.

On arriving at the Springs, a more dismal looking spot in which to immure an invalid, can scarcely be conceived. A few half-cleared acres of swamp, diversified by a plentiful sprinkling of blackened stumps, and heaps of charred and mouldering logs, amid a tangled thicket of brushwood, with here and there a solitary pine stick, rearing its dead