

sive territory. Already, indeed, under the stimulus of the lumber trade alone, has the town made rapid strides towards the importance it will eventually attain in a much higher degree; and, with the aid of the Provincial Government and the impetus of individual enterprise, the boundless resources of this fine river are in a very satisfactory course of development.

Ascending it, we come first to the "St. Maurice Forges," nine miles from the mouth of the river, where a justly celebrated, and very superior quality of iron is manufactured from ore beds in that vicinity. Other forges near by are also in operation. Passing on about seven miles further, we come to the flourishing village of the "Grais." Here are extensive saw mills driven by water power, and manufacturing annually seven million feet of sawn lumber, with ample room and power for more establishments of the same or any other kind. Three miles above this point we come to one of the wonders of the new world—the Falls of Shawinigan, 165 feet in height, in volume of water and picturesque magnificence next only to Niagara, and for all purposes of utility, infinitely surpassing it. Here the traveller instinctively pauses, and well he may. He has seen as he approached, the broad and ample basin below the Falls, evidently one vast workshop to be driven by the mighty agency above. He makes the ascent, and sees before him a wide, calm and spreading bay, receiving depot and custodian, for the extensive country above, of all its natural riches, to be here taken by the hand of art and transformed and fitted for the purposes of commerce. The conviction is irresistible; he cannot avoid it, for so obvious and palpable are the capabilities of the place, that in contemplating them he sees not the possibilities of a century but the certainties of a decade of years.

Leaving this remarkable spot, we ascend still further, till at the distance of twenty miles above we come to "Les Piles," nearly on a direct line between Quebec and Ottawa City—the new Capitol of Canada. Up to, and at intervals far beyond, this place, Government has constructed excellent public roads leading from Three Rivers, and also greatly improved the navigation of the river. Here too is the terminus of a proposed railway, connecting with the North Shore Road at Three Rivers, in aid of which the Provincial Government has granted four million acres of land. This road is to pass Shawinigan (below) and will greatly facilitate the business and hasten the growth and settlement of the country. Ascending still further, we see on all sides the Govern-

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