

I am to undertake from Lake Pohenagamook to the Metjarmette Portage.

This is the general plan of proceeding, for which we are both to prepare.

On our side those preparations consist chiefly in storing provisions at—

1. Lake Pohenagamook.
2. North-West Branch, *i. e.*, Lake Ishæganalshegeck.
3. Height of land on the Kennebec Road.
4. Lake Megantic.

Before the close of the St. Lawrence provisions were with this view taken to—

1. Point Lewis.
2. St. Thomas.
3. Rivière du Loup.

During the winter they will be taken from Point Lewis to the height of land on the Kennebec Road and Lake Megantic.

From St. Thomas to Lake Ishæganalshegeck.

From Rivière du Loup to Lake Pohenagamook.

There will also be formed during the winters small depôts on the two Black Rivers, and on a long lake which lies between them; they will be formed where the Line crosses those waters.

After the south-west line is traced I expect to be obliged to stop proceedings for a time. The rains and the melting of the snow will probably lay the country under water.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, *Lt.-Col.*

No. 11.

The Earl of Aberdeen to Lieutenant-Colonel Estcourt.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 4, 1844.

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatches of the 22nd of July of last year, and of the 23rd of January of the present year, in which you report in detail the whole proceedings of the Boundary Commission, since the 16th of June last.

I have much satisfaction in informing you that Her Majesty's Government view with high approbation the energy and ability with which the operations of the Commission have been conducted, both by yourself and by all the officers and gentlemen under your orders; and Her Majesty's Government are no less gratified by the report which you make of the perfect harmony and friendliness of feeling which has invariably prevailed between you and your American colleague.

It is needless for me to urge on persons who have already exhibited such persevering diligence the necessity of continuing in the same course of activity, in order to bring the labours of the Commission, if possible, to a close by the end of this season. Her Majesty's Government feel that they may entirely confide in you and your officers for doing all that depends on you for effecting an object which they have so much at heart.

In order to increase your powers of execution, the additional Sappers requested by you in your despatch of the 26th of December, 1843, have been placed at your disposition, not without some little inconvenience to other branches of the service, by the Master-General of the Ordnance. It was found, however, impossible to assign to you fourteen non-commissioned officers; but eight non-commissioned officers and six picked privates will proceed to join you by the earliest opportunity which may offer.

The additional instruments, also, which you have desired, will be sent out to you by the same opportunity.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) ABERDEEN.