

stances, it has appeared to us, that such a lucid exposition of the Boundary case as would be deemed useful and satisfactory by your Lordship, would be best made, by first reviewing, in a brief manner, the history of that part of North America connected with the disputed territory, with a view to discover how far the ancient descriptions of territorial demarcations therein coincide with the Boundary intended to be established for the United States, by the Second Article of the Treaty of 1783; and by then proceeding to a description of the physical geography of the country, and to an investigation of the three geographical lines, upon which we are required, by your Lordship's instructions, to report.

In doing this, we shall have to make a somewhat critical examination of the ancient Boundary of Nova Scotia, as described in the Grant of King James the First to Sir William Alexander, dated 10th of September, 1621. It will be seen from this examination, that reasonable grounds exist for supposing, that a singular perversion of the terms used in the description of that Boundary has long existed, and that the line of Boundary intended by the Grant of Nova Scotia, is so much at variance with that which has usually appeared on the greater number of maps, as entirely to change the nature of the Northern Boundary of the United States, from that which has hitherto been understood to be its direction.

It will be very satisfactory to us, if we shall be able to satisfy your Lordship, that there are reasonable grounds for thinking, that the true line of Boundary has been hitherto overlooked; and that, consequently, the line claimed by the State of Maine fails, upon examination, in every essential particular.

We preface this part of the subject with some notices which seem to be called for, of the periods when the earliest European adventurers began to frequent, and settle in, the countries contiguous to the St. Lawrence River and the Bay of Fundy, first called La Baie Française.

In 1506, Jean Denys de Honfleur published a map of Newfoundland.

In 1518, Baron Lery de Saint Just landed cattle at Isle du Sable.

In 1535, Jacques Cartier took possession of the country on the Saint Lawrence, and built a fort.

In 1540, the Sieur de Roberval commissioned Lieutenant-Governor for "les terres neuves de Canada, Hochelaga, Laguenay, et autres."

In 1541, Jacques Cartier fortified Cape Breton.

In 1598, the Sieur de la Roche appointed "Lieutenant-Général en Canada, Hochelaga, Terre-Neuve, Labrador, Rivière de la Grande Baie (Saint John's, in the Bay of Fundy), Norembegue (the present State of "Maine), et les terres adjacentes." His people subsisted on the cattle left eighty years before on Isle du Sable.

In 1603, the Sieur de Monts received letters patent, in which the word "Acadie" is first used as the name of the country. His grant is from "le 40me. degré de latitude jusqu'au 46me."

In 1604, the Sieur de Monts, with Champlain and Poitricourt, established themselves, during a winter, on a small island in Passamaquoddy River which island they named "Sainte Croix, et ce nom s'est ensuite communiqué "à la rivière *."

* L'Escarbot in his *Histoire de la Nouvelle France*, describes Passamaquoddy Bay, the Island of St. Croix, where De Monts wintered, and the aspect of the adjacent country, with sufficient accuracy, as we had occasion to observe in our visit there at the close of the year 1839. There ought not to have been much difficulty in identifying the "true St. Croix," under the Treaty of 1794. L'Escarbot says, "Quittans la Rivière St. Jean, ils vinrent suivant la côte à vingt lieues de là, en une grande Rivière (qui est proprement mer) où ils se campèrent en une petite isle au milieu d'icelle." Passamaquoddy Bay is exactly twenty leagues from the River St. John. It has been asserted, that it was difficult to identify the St. Croix of De Monts, it having received its name from the ceremony usually practised by French adventurers, of planting a cross where they landed. But in an ancient map by L'Escarbot, from which our Extract No. 4 of Map B. is taken, various places are marked with a cross, thus †; but the true St. Croix is not so marked, and another reason is given for its name. After describing the Bay, he says: "Et d'autant qu'à deux lieues au-dessus, il y a des ruisseaux qui viennent comme en croix se décharger dans ce large bras de mer, cette isle de la retraite des Français fut appelée Sainte Croix." Accordingly, he gives to the river in his map the rude form of a cross, and designates the small island upon which they wintered, and where the remains of the encampment have since been found. It is deserving also of remark, that upon the same map, appear hills, apparently intended to represent ridges: the northern one being placed to the north of the sources of the waters that flow into the St. Lawrence, and the southern one being placed in a direction to divide the waters flowing in opposite directions.—Vide L'Escarbot, 1618, pp. 446, 447.

Examination proposed of the western boundary of the Grant of Nova Scotia in 1621.

First adventurers in Canada and Nova Scotia.

Fastes chronologiques, p. 13.
Do. p. 21.

Do: p. 21.

L'Escarbot p. 408.
Do. p. 401.

Do. p. 408.

Do. p. 417.

Do. p. 441.

Map by L'Escarbot. Vide extract No. 4 of map B.