

cedar tamarack and spruce swamp, whence, from the tops of trees can be discovered, with the exception of some hills on the south-east and south, between two and three miles distance, the same features of country.

The main branch, until it reaches the Metgermette Hills at about eleven miles from its mouth, generally preserves the same character of country as its north-westerly branch. Here I diverged northward to the summits of the hills, which extend parallel with the general course of the river, and from position A observed the bold mountain in a southern direction, as likewise the whole space of country south-eastward, lying at the base of several conspicuous heights or peaks, which I have since ascertained to be the Guespempisitook Mountains, and on the east also a few very distant headlands of great height, bearing in Mars Hill direction (see sketch No. 1).

I then ascended to position B on the north side of the mountain, and then observed the whole space of country from N.N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ to W.N.W. in a distance of upwards of fifty miles: the conspicuous objects are the great mountains A, B, C, D, the distance and heights of which I ascertained with the utmost care; the mountain A, situated at the sources of the rivers Du Sud and Etchemin, appears to have considerable heights near it—whereas B, C, and D are unconnected with any ridge or mountains whatsoever, unless a few hills of inferior height between B and C. There I found I was 800 to 900 feet above the level of a lake, which was subsequently ascertained to be the waters of River Lafamine, bearing N. 2° 20' E., $16\frac{1}{2}$ miles distance, lying in a vast plain of level country, stretching from the base of the Metgermette Hills to four or five miles north of the lake, and but few patches of hard woodland diversify the general sameness in the appearance of the timber—for spruce, cedar, tamarack, and balsam seem to be the prevailing quality in this low tract of country. After this survey I returned to the Metgermette.

This river takes its sources in two lakes, the westerly one, by much the greater, is over three-fourths of a mile long, and of very irregular figure. No features about it denote a mountainous country, although there is a broken and rugged appearance in the dwarf hills that lie in the north-easterly part of it. The inlet of this lake takes its source in the same valley with the Penobscot waters formed by these hills and Moose Mountains. The height of land C is however observable between the Metgermette lakes and two small lakes at the head of the west branch of Penobscot River, which runs to the south and south-east. The principal elevation about the head of these rivers is Moose Mountain D, which lies between the east and west branches of Penobscot River. From it I observed the great mountains A, B, C, D, and likewise the same low flat country I had seen from Metgermette.

The inlet to the lake of the east branch, which lies at the base of Moose Mountain, takes its source to the north-west of it in a spruce and cedar swamp, and the same description of country as at the source of the north-west branch of Metgermette. Following the height of land on the north-east of the lake, a mountain (E G) of nearly equal elevation with Moose Mountain, running east-north-easterly, divides the Penobscot waters from those of the river St. John, which rises in a small lake of about two-and-a-half miles circumference; its inlet, coming from the west, takes its source in the same spruce and cedar swamp with the Penobscot.

The land on the east, south, and south-east of Lake St. John is mountainous; the mountains F G appear to take a general direction east-north-easterly. To the west and south-west an extensive level tract lies open to view the Metgermette Hills; on the north-west and north a cedar and tamarack swamp (savanne) extends from the margin of the lake a considerable distance, until it reaches a swell of hard woodland (or coteau), which runs parallel with and at about a mile from the River St. John, as does also a coteau on the north-east side, but of a bolder aspect than the former.

I would beg leave here to make an observation relative to the copy of a plan of the Commissioners of the boundary line, accompanying your Instructions for my guidance. In every respect I have found it to differ with the actual locality of the country it would represent, and deviates so widely in respect to the situation, manner, and distance at which I expected to find the River St. John, that without the great research I made to ascertain whether these were the waters, I must have been led into serious error, detrimental to the public service.

Having found no lands in these parts which divide the waters falling into the River St. John from those flowing into the River St. Lawrence that can fairly be designated highlands, as those I had hitherto followed is the chain of mountains lying at the head of the Penobscot waters, and dividing them from the waters flowing into the St. Lawrence on the west and on the north-east from the head or source of the main River St. John, I reached the lake or head waters of a branch of the St. John's, where this fact is further confirmed.

It is about a mile long by one-third wide, and around it are to be seen six or seven detached hills, the highest of which (O) lies on the eastern bank of the River St. John, while the northern extremity of the coteau before mentioned is observed at upwards of two miles to the south-east.

One prevailing feature of low level country, commonly called "Savanne" or "Tamarack" plains, characterizes the land in its vicinity which it bears out to Lake Lafamine, the head waters of a branch of the south-east arm of that river, which falls into the Chaudière. The hunters have cut a very good portage road through the swamp between the two lakes, the distance being but five hundred and fifty yards.

On the north and north-east side of the lake the land is low and swampy, while on the south and south-east the hill approaches its borders to the eastward; the chain of hills (O) on the eastern bank of the River St. John is distinctly observed stretching north-easterly.

There are still no highlands and fewer hills at the source of another branch of the St. John, which I traced up from the main river into a cedar, spruce, and tamarack swamp, where it is finally lost. At half a mile northward of the source a rising ground, of about 80 to 100 feet, affords a view of the whole expanse of country for several miles round, which is low and swampy, and slopes to the west and north-west.