

PREFACE.

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may serve to show how far my humble exertions have been appreciated.

“ Royal Engineers’ Office, Rideau Canal,
5th August, 1828.

“ SIR,

“ I have the honour to state, for the information of his Lordship the Master-General, and Right Honourable and Honourable Board, that Mr. Mac-taggart, Clerk of Works at the Rideau Canal, is so much recovered of a dangerous fever, as to enable him to return to England according to order. And I beg leave to report, that I have found him a man of strong natural abilities, well grounded in the practical part of his profession, and a zealous, hard-working man in the field.

“ I most respectfully recommend him to your protection and that of the Honourable Board. He is fond of research, and of exploring this untracked country; his reports are faithful, and I have always found him a man of honour and integrity.

“ I have the honour to be, Sir;
Your most obedient humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN BY,

Lieut.-Colonel Royal Engineers,
Commanding Rideau Canal.”

“ To General Mann,
Inspector-General of Fortifications,
Board of Ordnance.”