

fore scarcely a point or an island on either of the lakes but has been the scene of some desperate conflict between fierce contending enemies.

Before going further, we will briefly refer to some of the chief objects of interest from a military point of view in the neighbourhood of these waters.

About the year 1730, the French conceived the idea of establishing a province extending from the Connecticut River to Lake Ontario, with its chief centre at Crown Point, where they built a fort, although it was considerably to the south of their proper and legitimate boundary. In 1755 a further advance was made and Fort Ticonderoga was built also on the west side of the lake and near the outlet of Lake George, which latter lake lies to the west of and parallel to the southern part of Lake Champlain.

At the southern extremity of Lake George, which is 33 miles long, the English built Fort William Henry in the autumn of 1755.

To the south-east of Fort William Henry, about 14 miles distant on the way to Albany, was Fort Edward, the base of operations for the English forces during the French War.

To the north of Crown Point about 25 miles is one of the most remarkable physical features among the many interesting headlands on Lake Champlain and is known as Split Rock. I wish to draw attention to this for a moment in connection with the boundary question.

The Rock is about half an acre in extent, with smooth perpendicular sides rising from the water's edge and divided across by a chasm ten feet wide.

This rock was formerly the dividing line between the Mohawks and the Algonquins, whose territories were respectively occupied later on by the English and the French.

In 1710 it was acknowledged by the Treaty of Utrecht to be the northern limit of the English dominions, and in 1760 it was fixed as the boundary between the colony of New York and the newly acquired Province of Canada.

This same limit was officially acknowledged as late as 1774, but during the Revolutionary War, the insurgent forces made demonstrations considerably to the north of it, and ultimately, when the boundary was under consideration, by another of those lamentable instances of English indifference to Yankee aggression, the boundary was fixed 77 miles further north, where it now remains.

Had the British Commissioners on that occasion restricted the rebellious colonists to their previous limits, Canada would now embrace that part of northern New York lying north of the 44th parallel, which leaves the lower end of Lake Ontario at Cape Vincent and about evenly divides the States of Vermont and New Hampshire and intersects the Atlantic Coast at a point that would have continued about seven-eighths of the State of Maine as British territory.

The author of these journals was born at Londonderry, Ireland, and came to America with his parents and five brothers in 1740, being then 14 years of age.

He commenced his military career in New Hampshire by organizing a company of scouts of which he took command in the early part of 1755, and actively engaged in defence of their northern frontier against the French and Indians.

In July of that year he was summoned to Albany, the military headquarters of Major-General Sir William Johnson, who was in command of the Provincial troops.