

INSTRUCTIONS FROM LIEUT.-GOVERNOR HAMILTON
TO THE DEPUTY SURVEYOR-GENERAL TO MAKE
AN EXPLORATORY SURVEY OF THE COUNTRY
LYING BETWEEN THE BAY OF QUINTE AND
LAKE HURON.

QUEBEC, 22nd May, 1785.

SIR,—You will please immediately upon your arrival at Montreal to wait on the General and acquaint him with the time of your intended departure from thence, and receive his commands for any of the settlements on your route.

You will confer with Mr. Delancy before you leave Montreal, and should anything appear necessary to be communicated to me, either on account of the Loyalists or the intended survey, you will have no time to inform me of it. You will consult the heads of the townships and report to me briefly the state and progress of each, with their real wants, not their fancied ones.

Having settled with Mr. McLean about the management of the Loyalists at the upper townships, and directed how the mills are to be worked for the common benefit, having settled Captain Brant's lot, and distributed the garden seeds, having left your instructions with Mr. Kotte how he is to proceed, and arranged all for the best with Captain Potts, you will proceed upwards to take a survey of the communication between the Bay of Quinte and Lake Huron, by Lake La Clie.

You will particularly note the depth of water at every necessary place and mark the soundings in your plan or chart—the parts navigable for the different sorts of craft; the nature of the soil and its produce, particularly timber; the Indian tribes on the communication, their number, disposition, etc.; what tracts of land it may be necessary to purchase, and at what rate; calculate the time and expense of rendering the different portages, etc., practicable; consider and weigh well the disadvantages as well as the favorable points; the tracts which the transport of goods would require if the roads were in good condition; consult the merchants of Montreal upon the idea of erecting stores at the different convenient places, and if you find they are desirous of encouraging the project, write me immediately.

Your prudence will suggest other measures. I wish you all health and good weather, and am, sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

HENRY HAMILTON.

John Collins, Esq.,
Deputy Surveyor-General.