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THE UPPER ST. LAWRENCE RIVER; ITS INTERNATIONAL
HISTORY, DEVELOPMENT OF NAVIGATION, AND
FUTURE POSSIBILITIES.

By HENRY HOLGATE, M. Can. Soc. C. E.

(To be read on 19th March, 1911.)

The River St. Lawrence, or as it is called in the old treaties, the Iroquois or Cataraqui River, is a boundary river between the United States and Canada.

Under the treaty of peace signed at Paris in 1763, the boundary line is defined to a certain point on the 45° of north latitude in the middle of the River Iroquois or Cataraqui, and thence along the middle of the said river into Lake Ontario.

The next treaty taking cognizance of the River St. Lawrence as a boundary, was the Treaty of Ghent, 1814, where the boundary, as described in the previous treaty was confirmed, but there arose a question at this time regarding the location of the 45° of north latitude. This doubt, however, does not appear to have affected the point previously determined on, where it intersects the river, and the Treaty of Ghent having determined this point, it described the boundary up the river to Lake Ontario, as described in the Treaty of Paris, to be along the middle of the said Iroquois or Cataraqui River into Lake Ontario.

Certain doubts arose as to what was the middle of the river, and in order that these doubts might be finally decided it was provided that the matter should be referred to commissioners. This course was followed, and on the 18th June, 1822, the Commissioners gave their award, describing the boundary in the River St. Lawrence as being "From the point where the 45° of north latitude strikes the River Iroquois, beginning at a stone monument erected by Andrew Ellicott in the year 1817 on the south shore of the river, which