

for a description of this part of the route. With this plan in view, I proceeded to Andover—and before leaving that place, secured the services of JOHN M. WILSON, Esq. of Township No. 5, Second Range, a practical Surveyor, and best acquainted of any in that region, with the route from Andover to Magalloway river and the lakes to the boundary, which your instructions indicated as the one to which my special attention should be first directed. The other route by Dixville Notch to Colebrook and Canaan, and thence to Compton and Sherbrooke, in Canada, I left for examination on my return. As the result has proved, I now regret that my first attention had not been given to this route, that I might have had more time to devote to it.

Soon after leaving the settlements it commenced storming; rains and snows prevailing for most of the time during my examination; and in passing over the route from Andover to the head waters of the Magalloway, and across the boundary to the first settlements on the Canada side, seventeen days were diligently spent in the wilderness, with the snow for most of the distance fifteen inches deep, and our progress along the streams, obstructed by a low growth of fir, spruce, and cedar, which grows very dense, and was heavily loaded down with snow, which added much to the difficulties we had to encounter; and all combined, prevented me from obtaining so full and satisfactory a view of the surrounding region as could have been desired.

In describing the country traversed, little need be said, as to that part which lies between this city and the Androscoggin River, at Rumford. Beyond that point, to the North and West, the whole region presents a bold and