

Lawrence, which, from its coincidence with my Notes, can doubtless be relied upon.

It will be perceived what would be the probable advantages of the road of communication along a navigable river, and through a Country wherein the surplus population of Lower-Canada, and the many families which annually emigrate from the Mother Country could be comfortably settled, besides the Expences necessary to be incurred (if justly applied) would be esteemed trivial, in comparison to the convenience to be derived by a new course of conveying the Mails from Quebec to Halifax, which from the facility of the Navigation afforded by the *Matapedia* would gain upon the present course of conveyance by the Portage of *Temiscouata*, thence down the river St. John, which runs nearly parallel to and a few miles from the line between the United States and New Brunswick Territories, where the American Settlements are advancing by rapid strides on the several branches of the *Penobscot*, and indeed on that very botndary Line.—In the event of differences between these Governments our mails must be exposed to danger, whilst a route which would obviate those apprehensions in benefitting the District of Gaspé, might be practised, first from Quebec to Miris, thence across the Portage, wherein might be settled at *Tuctigos* and *Tuctigobschiche* (which is about half way) a few families, to the head of Lake *Matapedia* along the Eastern side thereof, which seems to be more suitable for a Road, to the *Casapuncill*, where again some families might be also settled, and proceeding still along the Eastern side across *Cassimaquagan* to the entrance of the *Matapedia*, thence along the *Ristigouche*, either crossing above or below the rapids, to the road on the New Brunswick side, or continue along the north side of the *Ristigouche* as far as Mr. Mann's Establishment, where an easy passage can be procured across to the opposite side of the Bay, thence proceed on a very good road to *Nipisiguet*, where it strikes off towards Miramichi River, and meets the road to Halifax.

I would finally observe, that these Notes have chiefly been taken on the spot, besides information I have since acquired from Mr. Mann, who has repeatedly travelled the Country at different Seasons by the two inland communications, *Temiscouata*, and *Matapedia*, which here I have classed together to be annexed to the Plan of my exploring Survey, which may give an idea of this portion of Country and desirable communication; a road, abstract to the place under consideration, of incalculable advantage, in facilitating the intercourse between the Bay of *Chaleurs* and the higher Districts. Through it the whole Country from Gaspé Bay to *Ristigouche*, and from all the waters which empty themselves into the *Matapedia*, upon which Townships of the usual dimensions could be laid out, would find an easy communication. The facility which it would afford to all commercial and military operations, and also as regards the Mail conveyance cannot be too highly estimated, and may from the interests to which it relates merit attention.

(Signed)

JOSEPH BOUCHETTE, Junr.  
D. P. S.

Quebec, 16th Decr. 1822.