

the River St. John ; at this point he erected his transit, which it was unnecessary afterwards to remove, as it commanded a view of all the hills in front for many miles. Lieut. Pepon was not equally fortunate, for, on account of the short distances between the elevated ridges at his end of the line, it became necessary frequently to change the position of his instrument.

A set of preconcerted signals was agreed upon, to be made with rockets and blue lights. Mr. Scott (the present Lieut. Governor of Labuan, a gentleman of great energy and scientific attainments,) undertook to run the line through with a theodolite by day, and he was to be put in line at night by Capt. Robinson from his transit station. The manner in which this was done was simple but effectual. Signals by flashes of gunpowder were made every night at the hour of nine. Mr. Scott having previously made a clearance, and erected a platform stage on the line crossing the summit of the nearest hill, showed a large torch, formed from the bark of the white birch, which could be seen at a much greater distance than either rockets or blue lights. On the signal being perceived by Capt. Robinson, he flashed three charges of powder in succession at the interval of one minute, which was the signal, Are you ready? Three flashes in return was an affirmative, two a negative. These preliminaries arranged, the torch light remaining in the centre of the line run during the day with the theodolite, the signals then were; one flash, too much to the right; two flashes, too far to the left; three flashes, nearly right; four, in line; which, if understood, was answered by four flashes in return.—By this arrangement the day's work was checked, and errors corrected.

After Mr. Scott had run his line about forty miles, much anxiety was felt with regard to Lieut. Pison's party, of