

Crown Land office at Fredericton.<sup>1</sup> In the absence of a general topographical survey of the province they have been invaluable as "tie lines" for checking and correlating the detached surveys from which our provincial maps are pieced together. Unhappily, however, in no case have the county lines been marked by permanent monuments, but only by blazes on trees and by marked stakes. As a result they will in time become lost either by natural decay or through forest fires, and once lost they can be recovered only with great difficulty.<sup>2</sup> New Brunswick suffers greatly in many ways from the lack of a proper topographical survey of the province with permanent boundary marks, and I believe the province would save money in the end by having such a survey made.<sup>3</sup>

#### SYNOPSIS OF THE COUNTY LINES OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The development of the county lines may be traced through the Acts of the House of Assembly of New Brunswick. For the first fifty years (1786-1836), these Acts are collected into a fine quarto volume, invaluable for New Brunswick history, "The Acts of the General Assembly of Her Majesty's Province of New Brunswick," etc. (Fredericton 1838), but the later acts are in separate volumes.

<sup>1</sup> It is probable that in running these lines some difficulty was experienced from the fact that some of them were to be run by the magnetic meridian of an earlier year, always difficult to determine with accuracy. Even where the true meridian or parallel is to be used, the determination of the magnetic variation (which must be determined to allow such lines to be run) presents no little difficulty, and is a subject on which surveyors are apt to differ. I believe it is for such a reason that some of the lines on Wilkinson's map of 1859, and on others following him, run as they do. Thus the north line of Westmorland is by law an east and west line, but it is not so drawn on Wilkinson, for the reason, as I believe, that Wilkinson considered the surveyors who ran that line had miscalculated the magnetic variation and had run the line too much south of west. I have earlier referred (page 369) to his delineation of the true east line between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, which runs not true east, but south of east. Several other county lines upon this map, apparently straight, are shown by a ruler not to be so, no doubt for the reason above given.

<sup>2</sup> This practical inconvenience has already been manifest in the case of Charlotte County. The North line was run from Point Lepreau in 1838 and 1845, but in the settled portion between the Point and the Grand Southern railroad the marks had been lost and it recently became necessary to mark out the line. A surveyor employed for the purpose ran it differently from the position remembered by the old residents, and another surveyor ran it in yet another position. And in this condition the question remains at present.

<sup>3</sup> Some data upon cost, etc., may be found in the Bulletins of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick, XVII, 122 and XVIII, 230.