

Notes to the State
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Surveys under
the late Commis-
sion.

and swamp, except about half a mile, where the ground is a little more elevated; and the description by both Mr. Hunter and Mr. Loss is the same in substance.

The Metjarmette, which is an Indian portage, is at the Western extremity of the British line, and common to both lines, being the place where the South-west branch of the River St. John, the North-westernmost branch of the Penobscot, and the Metjarmette, one of the tributary streams of the River Chaudiere, (which falls into the River St. Lawrence,) have their sources. There is a mountain about three miles East of the portage; but the portage itself is of the same character with those of the Rivers Tuladi and Ouelle.

The River Metjarmette, Mr. Carle says, commences in a swamp; the source of one of the branches of the Penobscot is in the same swamp: one half mile East there is a division of the waters of the St. John and Penobscot Rivers, in some marshy ground.—(British Appendix, page 134, and American Appendix, page 430.)

Between that portage and Mars' Hill, no other place but the two above mentioned portages has been surveyed along the British line; nor did any of the surveyors visit a single one of the mountains delineated on that line in the British Transcript of the map A.

The country between Mars' Hill and the Umbazucksus Portage was approached only in two places—Mount Cathadin on the South, and a hill on the bank of the River Ristook on the North; both about 25 miles distant from the British line.

If we trace, on map A, the country within the following bounds, viz: from the River St. Croix West to the Penobscot; up this river, through the Chesumcook Lake, to the Umbazucksus Portage; thence, through the Aphmogene Lake, down the Aliguash River, to its mouth, and down the River St. John to the place where it is intersected by the due North line; and thence South, along the said line, to the source of the River St. Croix; the boundaries thus described designate the explorations made by the surveyors, within which, with the exception of the partial survey of the Ristook River and the ascent of Mount Katahdin, not a single spot appears from the surveys to have been explored or visited by any of the Surveyors under the late commission.

There is not, amongst all their surveys, any other evidence of the mountains within that tract of country, which are laid down in the British Transcript of map A, than Mr. Campbell's Sketch (No. 18) and the views taken by Mr. Odell from Mars' Hill and from Park's Place, which is situated near, and East of, the due North line, and about 25 miles South of Mars' Hill.

Mr. Odell might, if he had thought it proper, have laid before the Commissioners a sketch of the perspective view of the hills, which appeared to him to terminate the horizon, as seen from any of his stations, in the same manner as navigators annex to their charts views of the land as seen from some point, or as the views or appearances of mountains, or of any landscape, are inserted in books of travels. But this is, it is believed, the first time that it has been attempted to convert the distant appearance of either ridges or detached hills, seen from one or two points, into an actual survey, or ground plan, of an extensive tract of country, such as has been incorporated by Mr. Odell in his real survey of a single river, (of the Ristook, No. 7.)

This tract of country not having been at all explored, was left a blank in map A, and it has not been filled in the American Transcript; though, judging from analogy, it may be considered as certain, that it is intersected throughout by branches of the Penobscot and of the Ristook, the sources of which are not probably, in any instance, farther than one mile apart. And, as these were necessarily concealed from Mr. Odell's view by the intervening hills and forest, he has omitted them altogether, giving to the whole the fallacious appearance of an extensive highland, with scattered peaks.

It is not to this moment understood, on what *fact*, which could possibly have sustained that plan or map, it was intended to examine Mr. Odell on oath. He could only have stated what was already in proof, viz: that he did *believe* that the hills which he had not surveyed or visited, but only seen at a distance, lay in the manner represented on that plan; and the peremptory objection would have still remained unanswered, that the position assigned by him to those hills on the *plan*, was not a fact, but only an inference or conjecture, the correctness of which it was impossible for any human being to affirm.