

But a strong, or if I may add a conclusive point in shewing the passage between Fox and Portage Island, to be the main entrance, or mouth of the Miramichi is the peculiar action of the Tides. It is thus described by Bayfield p. 35:

"The stream of the tides is not strong in the open bay outside the bar of Miramichi. The flood draws in towards the *entrance* as into a funnel, coming both from the N. E. and S. E. alongshore from Tabisintac, as well as from Point Escumenac. It sets fairly through the ship channel at the rate of about 1½ knots at the black buoy, increasing to 2 or 2½ knots in strong spring-tides between Portage and Fox Islands, where it is strongest. The principal part of the stream continues to flow westward, in the direction of the buoys of the Horse-shoe, although some part of it flows to the northward between that shoal and Portage Island."

The effect of this is thus singularly felt. A boat leaving Negouac to ascend the Miramichi with the flood tide, is absolutely met by the tide flowing northerly against her until coming abreast of the Horse-Shoe Shoal, or in the line of the main entrance; and a boat at the Horse Shoe Shoal steering for Negouac, with the ebb tide making, would have the current against her, though Negouac is on a line as far sea-ward as the entrance to the Portage and Fox Islands—thus shewing conclusively that the main inlet and outlet of the Tidal waters to the mouth or entrance of the Miramichi is between Portage and Fox Islands.

As such Arbitrator or Umpire I decide that a line connecting Fox and Portage Islands, (marked in red, plan No. 2, Record Book No. 2.) designates the mouth of the Miramichi River.

Dated at Saint John, in the Province of New-  
Brunswick, this 8th day of April, A. D., 1858. } JOHN HAMILTON GRAY.