

(C.)

CANADA.

To JOSEPH BOUCHETTE, Esq., Surveyor-General for the Province of Lower Canada, &c. &c.
SIR, Quebec, April 25, 1828.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day, desiring me to give my opinion, for the information of His Majesty's Government, on the copies of the plans of the British and American Commissioners, under the fifth Article of the Treaty of Ghent, as far as my knowledge of the country in general, and more particularly that part lately by me explored, may enable me to do so.

After mature and strict examination of these copies, I have the honour to inform you, that within the extent of my knowledge of the country, almost every one of the rivers seems to be laid down merely to show that such a river exists about such a place, but that there is not the least similarity whatever in their courses; and a number of branches of rivers, as well of those falling into the St. Lawrence as of those falling into the St. John's river, are not laid down at all thereon.

I cannot conceive how it can be possible to form a judgment by such documents, as very few of the rivers seem to have been placed on these plans by actual surveys, but rather from information and from memory.

The mountains and hills, also, are there very differently represented from what they actually are: so that it is impossible, in doing anything by these plans, to avoid falling into the most serious errors.

I have, &c.,
FREDK. WYSS,
Surveyor of Lands.

(D.)

SIR, Quebec, April 25, 1828.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, referring me to copies of the plans of the British and American Surveyors, employed by the Commissioners, under the fifth Article of the Treaty of Ghent, to examine the said plans, and state to you, for the information of His Majesty's Government, whether any and what difference exists in the general features of the country, courses of rivers and their sources, by me recently explored.

I beg leave to state that I have, in conformity with your letter, carefully examined the plans of the said Commissioners in your office. The most palpable error in the American Commissioners' plan which came within my knowledge, is a chain of mountains which he represents as separating the waters of the St. Lawrence from those of the St. John, while, in point of fact, with the exception of a cluster of mountains, in which the River Etchemin and a branch of the Du Sud take their rise, together with an inferior ridge near the line between Standon and Ware the waters are not separated by mountains or high lands, but both take their rise in the same plain. As regards the courses of rivers and their sources, the most conspicuous error that I discovered, and which relates to the British as well as to the American Commissioners' plan, is, that the whole course of the rivers Du Sud and Etchemin are so inaccurately laid down as to bear no resemblance to the truth.

I have, &c.,
W. WARE, D.P.S.

Joseph Bouchette, Esq.,
Surveyor-General, Quebec.

No. 29. EXTRACT from the REPORT of GEOLOGICAL SURVEY of CANADA for the year 1844, by W. E. LOGAN, Esq., Provincial Geologist.

ALL these heights given between the two extreme summits are the links of a chain standing on the north side of the longitudinal valleys which have been mentioned, and while they constitute the most elevated serrated ridge, none of them are much more than a mile from the northern base of the whole belt. The five miles which compose the remainder of its breadth present summits of more moderate height, and one of the most elevated of these which stand conspicuously protruded into the gorge on its east side, and was named the South Mountain, we found to be 2,413 feet. The whole of these, as well as the northern crest, are abrupt on the north side, and in general more sloping on the south, in the probable direction of the dip of the strata: and these, as indicated by the ridges, have a strike which, in this part of the range, may be considered, E.N.E. and W.S.W., magnetic. Page 11.

From the highest summit we visited, the panorama displayed was of the grandest description. In the northern half of the circle, the waters of the St. Lawrence, dotted with its ships and fishing boats, spread out to the right and to the left as far as the eye could reach. On its northern shore, immediately in front, unaided vision could plainly distinguish the lighthouse of the Pointe des Monts some fifty miles off, from which the granite hills rising immediately behind it in the interior, gradually sunk below the horizon as they receded from us, following them down the expanding gulph to a point where we thought we could discern the Island of Anticosta, one hundred miles away in the mist of the distance, while at our feet were arranged in parallel lines the ridges and valleys of the lower land between us and the river. To the eastward a confusion of mountains and ravines belonging to the Notre Dame range filled up several degrees of the circle; and one summit, which exhibited a patch of snow, we supposed might be higher than the point we stood upon. Many of the peaks were bare, and as they retired one behind another, and occupied a smaller angle in the perspective, Page 12.