

salt manufactured by the troops in the event of a favourably report being received. The average price of salt in Montreal in the year 1788 had been 2s. 6d. per bushel, while at Kingston it was 15s. and at Detroit 40s. If this spring could be successfully utilised, he hoped to reduce the price of salt to such an extent as to enable the settlers to supply the garrisons with salted meat.

The Government of the United States was then vigorously urging the evacuation of the frontier posts within their territory as defined by the treaty of 1783. Captain Gother Mann, the senior officer of the Royal Engineers in Canada, was again required to make a report, which is dated the 29th of October, 1792.

After describing the military posts on the St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario at some length, he continued:—

“Proceeding now on the great communication of the Upper Country between the Lakes Ontario and Erie, I shall, as concisely as possible, just describe the nature of it with the mode of carrying on the business of transport upon it.

“There are three military posts on this communication, viz.: Niagara standing on the *east* shore at the entrance of the river into Lake Ontario, Fort Schlosser, between fourteen and fifteen miles above Niagara, on the same side of the river and about a mile and a half above the falls, and Fort Erie, about eighteen miles further on *west* shore of the river at the entrance of Lake Erie, so that the whole length of the communication between the two lakes is about thirty-three miles. The river is navigable without interruption for about seven miles above Niagara and so far loaded vessels may go up, but a strong leading wind being necessary to stem the current, they are not unfrequently discharged at Niagara or Navy Hall on the opposite shore and the goods conveyed up from thence in boats; they are then, on account of the rapids below the falls, obliged to be landed and carried in wagons to Fort Schlosser, where they are again put in boats and carried to Fort Erie and from that place are taken in vessels to the posts of Detroit and Michilimackinac or wherever else it may be requisite on the Lakes Erie, Huron and