

"After using many arguments to shew him the impropriety and disadvantages that would attend the fixing a Boundary on the Portage; the vast tract of country which must, for many years, remain unsettled, by its falling in their Province, their nearest settlement being, at least, two hundred miles distant from the heights on the Portage: the repugnancy expressed by the Acadians (settled near the Madawaska Falls) at the idea of being separated from this Province, to which they are attached by numberless ties and reasons; but more especially, that the fixing that limit would materially affect the Boundary between us and the United States of America; and that a large territory would thereby be saved or lost to His Majesty's dominions; and that the heights of land run from the Bay of Chaleur to the River St. John, and strike it at, or near, the Great Falls.

"To ascertain which, and more positively determine the situation, and explore the face of the country, we requested Captain Sproule to return with us to the Great Falls, to which he objected, saying, that his return there could answer no end, as the opinion he had already formed of the situation of the Boundary Line from geographical knowledge, and ocular demonstration, was unalterable, and that he was bound to observe General Carleton's instructions, which he produced, conceived in these words:

"By His Excellency Thomas Carleton, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.

"To GEORGE SPROULE, Esq. Surveyor-General.

"You are hereby directed to proceed to the Great Falls of the River St. John, in order to meet the Surveyor-General of the Province of Quebec at that place on the 15th instant, for the purpose of settling the Boundary Line between the Province of Quebec and New Brunswick, in the execution whereof you will be governed by the Act of Parliament for establishing the Province of Quebec, which determines that Boundary to be the high lands which divide those waters that empty themselves into the River St. Lawrence, from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean.

"Given under my hand at Fredericton, the seventh day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven.

[Signed] "THOMAS CARLETON."

On the 18th, Captain Sproule and we separated: he, on his way to the Portage, we to the Great Falls, where we found the country extremely mountainous; and, from information gathered from different persons, who have been from the St. John's River back in the country, and my own observations, have no doubt but that these mountains are the range which extend from the Bay of Chaleur to that River.

On consulting Mr. Finlay, and finding nothing further could be done towards ascertaining the Boundary Line, therefore, with his advice, returned to fulfil, as far as possible, the further requisitions as stated in the instructions your Lordship was pleased to honour me with.

I neglected no opportunity of encouraging and assuring those persons wishing to settle in that vicinity, of the favorable intentions of this Government towards them, leaving several copies of the minutes of Council among them, with which the Acadians, in particular, expressed an uncommon satisfaction.

I informed the people disposed to settle, of the spots Mr. Finlay pointed out as most convenient and necessary to be settled for the establishment of post-houses on the road; taking the utmost care and attention to explain to them the advantages of such situations. They in general were inclined to settle from the Falls up the St. John's River as far as Madawaska, the land being thus far good; but from

Appendix.
No. 39.

Extracts from the
British Evidence,
Boundary of Canada.
Mr. Holland's Report.—British Evidence, No. 32.