

“ Wilderness of Rideau.

“ December 28, 1826.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ HAVING by your orders explored the country in all directions, between the Bay on the Ottawa river, called Rafting Bay, in lat. $45^{\circ} 30'$ north, long. $77^{\circ} 20'$ west, where the Rideau Canal is proposed to commence, and the sheet of still water at Captain Wilson's, being a part of the River Rideau, embracing in the survey an interesting tract of country about eight miles long and four broad: I feel disposed to report to you as follows.

“ From the level of the low water in the Ottawa river to the head of the entrance valley which runs into Rafting Bay, in the above river, the height is eighty-three feet, which is proposed to be surmounted by locks and a basin to eighty feet; the distance from the shore of the entrance bay, to this summit-level, is 1090 feet. A distance of six chains farther brings the Canal into an extensive beaver meadow of about twelve acres, where a beautiful basin, or lay-by, may be constructed. From this place the route of the Canal leads gently away in a southerly direction, ~~on~~ the line of a number of small swamps, which have their origin in the beaver meadow, until it comes to a celebrated spot called the Notch of the Mountain, a distance of