

we decided to commence the levelling. Our daily proceedings will be found recorded in the annexed Levelling Registry; we therefore proceed at once to observe upon the nature of the ground over which we passed.

Upon reference to the accompanying section, your Lordship will observe, that from the St. John to Grand River, a distance of fourteen miles, the highest elevation is about 530 feet above the St. John, or 830 above the sea, presenting a gentle slope for half its distance, and descending gradually to the Grand River, which is 163 feet above the St. John.

After leaving Grand River, (which, on account of its winding character in this part, is crossed by the line three times in a space of less than a mile,) the country, by a gentle inclination, resumes the height before referred to of about 830 feet above the sea, and then falling off to the Wagan, (a branch of the Restigouche, which rises in the same low valley with a branch of Grand River called the Wagansis,) continues a low flat, as far as the main Restigouche, at a distance of twenty-four miles and a quarter from the St. John. The water in the Restigouche, at this point, is 137 feet above the St. John.

From the Restigouche, the country offers a regular surface not much broken or indented by courses of streams, until at the distance of about seven miles and a half along the exploratory due north line, it attains a gradual elevation of 800 feet above the St. John, and then as gradually descends to the Mempticook, the intersection of which by the due north line is 270 feet above the St. John. On leaving the Mempticook, the ground rises gradually to 1,300 feet above the St. John, and preserves the same general elevation for some miles, but intersected by numerous brooks, (tributaries of the Quatawamkedgwick,) remarkable for the depth and precipitous character of the ravines they form, and the broken appearance they give the country.

Before reaching this last-named river, the ground on the south bank suddenly descends from 1,083 feet above the St. John to only 158, giving a bold and precipitous character to this portion of the country. The Quatawamkedgwick flows in a valley about half a mile wide, the ground on the north side rising in a short distance to an elevation of 1,213 feet above it, and continues rising, but more gradually, until it attains the height of 1,410 feet above the St. John, which is the highest land on the exploratory due north line. The line then for five miles passes along a country gradually falling off to 509 feet above the St. John. Through this depression a tributary of the Quatawamkedgwick flows, called States Brook, which runs in a general north and south direction, at no great distance from the due north line. From this stream the ground rises to 1,121 feet above the St. John, and then begins to descend gradually to the Beaver Stream, its regularity being only broken by two small brooks, tributaries of the Restigouche. To the north of the last of these brooks is an elevation of 1,012 feet above the St. John, which divides the waters of the Bay de Chaleurs from those flowing into the St. Lawrence.

The exploratory due north line terminates in a low swampy flat, through which flows a narrow brook called Beaver Stream, being one of the sources of the Metis, and then diffuses itself into a small lake to the westward. We found on exploring the stream, below this lake for some distance, that it was impassable for canoes, we therefore were obliged to cut a portage sufficient for the passage of baggage and canoes parallel with the stream for about two miles, where, finding the water deeper, we embarked on the morning of the 9th October.

The navigation of the stream we found nearly wholly obstructed by natural dams of fallen timber and alders, which, growing on the banks, had crossed each other; by severe labour we were able to cut and effect a passage for the canoes which had then to be dragged through, and which, owing to the severity of the weather, (it snowing hard,) was a work of great exertion and difficulty. The stream always preserves the same character to Lake Metis, and afterwards, on leaving the lake, changes to a rapid rocky river, very difficult of navigation, and which, although descending, occupied us until the evening of the 15th, when we reached its mouth on the St. Lawrence.