

There are several extensive tracts of good Land in this County, if through which Roads were opened, would soon be settled upon ; and I believe that it is for want of Roads that they have not been settled upon before this time. However the people in this County do not seem to be much inclined to settle upon new Lands (witness the few Sales of Crown Lands which has taken place in this County for the last two years,) and where they have settled, they do not improve very fast.

The extensive trade in Cedar Shingles which is carried on at Saint Stephen's and Calais, has very much injured the settlement of the surrounding country. The Merchants and Traders there encourage the Settlers to manufacture these Shingles, for which they generally pay them in goods and provisions ; this is apparently an advantage to the Settler, as it would seem to be an easy means of providing provisions for the first year, but in the end it is ruinous to his farming interests, as the Merchant generally manages to get the Settler into his debt so that he (the Settler,) is obliged to continue the manufacture, to keep his credit good, even at times when he ought to be either sowing, or securing his crops, and leaving him but very little time to clear and improve his farm.

This Trade has also caused the Crown Lands within 25 or 30 miles of Saint Stephen's, to be all pillaged of the very fine Cedar Timber it contained, thereby rendering it of much less value when purchased for actual settlement.

There is one tract of Land which I wish particularly to bring under your notice ; it is situated to the north and west of Canoose River, and is bounded on the north and west by the River Saint Croix ; it contains a large quantity of good Land enough to form a Parish of itself. There is a new Settlement on the Canoose River on the continuation of the Oak Hill Road, and a Bridge was built over the Stream at this place last Summer, and should this Road be continued on northerly along the east side of Captain Spearman's grant, and then in nearly a direct line to the little Falls on the Saint Croix River, below Porter's Meadows, where a Bridge could be constructed at a small expense across the River, it would in that distance pass through large tracts of good Land, and all the travelling from Saint Stephen and Calais to the Great Lakes, and to the Settlements on the American Townships on the opposite side of the River, would pass along it ; it would be a complete thoroughfare. And after it would be opened, then branch Roads to the good Land east and west of it could be made, and a connection made with the Woodstock Road ; then the whole tract would be settled.

The distance of the proposed Road from the new Bridge over Canoose, to the Little Falls, is about $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles, with no Bridges excepting across Rills.

Estimate of Construction.

Exploration to be thoroughly done would cost about,	£20	0	0
Clearing, grubbing and levelling, 18 feet wide, ($10\frac{1}{2}$ miles)			
3,360 rods @ 3s.	504	0	0
Commission at 5 per cent. on £504,	25	4	0
Total,	<u>£549</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>

I do not make any estimate of the cost of the proposed Bridge over the Saint Croix, at the Little Falls, as I imagine it would be built by the subscriptions of the people on the English and American sides of the River, for their own accommodation, and also of the lumberers whom it would accommodate.

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There are two tracts of Land on the east and west sides of the Woodstock Road, which was formerly laid out for the Highland Society, to which I would