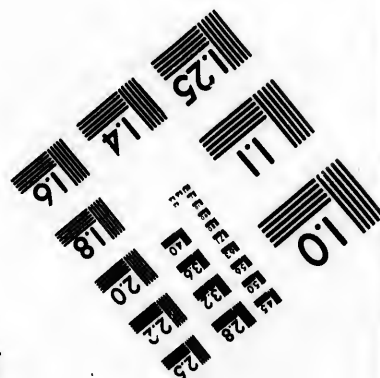
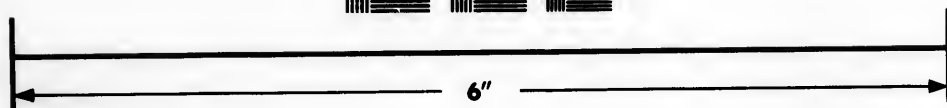
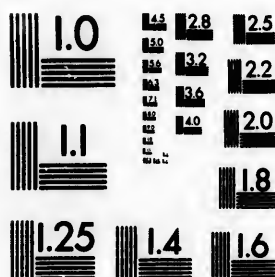


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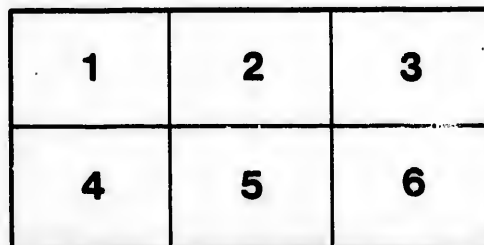
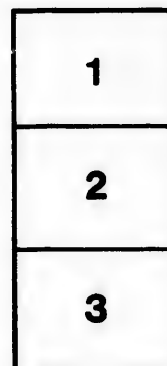
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**FREDERICTON ATHENÆUM,**

**FEBRUARY 26, 1855,**

**BY**

**THE HON. NEVILLE PARKER, PRESIDENT.**

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**PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SOCIETY.**

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**FREDERICTON.**

**PRINTED AT THE ROYAL GAZETTE OFFICE.**

**1855.**



# **ANNUAL ADDRESS**

**DELIVERED**

**BEFORE THE MEMBERS**

**OF THE**

**FREDERICTON ATHENÆUM,**

**FEBRUARY 26, 1855,**

**BY**

**THE HON. NEVILLE PARKER, PRESIDENT.**

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## ANNUAL ADDRESS.

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GENTLEMEN,

The close of another year in the life of our Society brings with it the occasion of recalling briefly the events which have marked its progress and the subjects which have engaged its attention; and it presents also an opportunity of casting a glance at the objects for which it was originally established, and the measure of success with which those objects have been prosecuted.

The wide field which expands before a Society of this nature, in prospect, presents much to delight the eye and gratify refined taste—much to interest and stimulate the powers of thought: History unfolding her ample page, and courting enquiry into the customs and usages of distant ages—the origin of nations—the distinctive characters which diversify the mind and genius no less than the features of differing races of men—the various problems which are connected with the early settlement of countries—the impelling causes which have determined the migrations of the human family and fixed the bounds of their habitation; all these hold out subjects innumerable for careful research and curious investigation. The all but hopeless obscurity with which in many instances the subject is enshrouded, so far from discouraging enquiry, is but the tempting veil which we long to draw aside, and the attempt, though often baffled, is still eagerly renewed.

The vast domain of animated nature which the great author of the universe has subjected to man spreads before the eye—nature, irrational, as we call it, but in many of its forms endowed with an instinct more accurate than reason. Science, in her different spheres and with her countless developments, points to the paths she has trodden, and the fields she has won—her progress, slow and painful at first, gradually but surely

triumphing over the secrets of nature, and revealing her exhaustless stores.

The various and attractive objects which thus rise above the mind's horizon, as embraced within the compass of a literary and scientific Society, clothe it in imagination with much that is delightful; and one would expect to see its numbers rapidly increase. But there is a reverse to the picture, which becomes more legible as the Society begins to break ground in these various departments of knowledge; and it is soon discovered that a certain amount of toil as well as pleasure awaits the traveller, when the distant *azure* of the mountain no longer hides the steepness and ruggedness of its ascent.

To drop metaphor. Of a Society limited necessarily by the small circumference of a not very populous neighbourhood, not a few of its members will always be found to whom the selection of a subject and preparation of a paper, however viewed beforehand, is found, when the attempt is seriously to be made, to be a task of more difficulty than was at first apprehended. The consciousness that our auditory will include those who are better informed than ourselves on most subjects that may be selected, is apt, not unnaturally, to discourage effort; and, if not resolutely contended against, to render irksome our position in a Society in which we persuade ourselves that, as we can contribute little to the joint stock, we are out of place.

But these apprehensions and misgivings are often greatly exaggerated, and should be vigorously combated. They proceed not always from the source to which we would fain attribute them, and we must not allow the suggestion of, it may be, a too sensitive vanity, to pass itself upon us for the promptings of genuine modesty. We must, in short, be contented not to be very brilliant or original at first, if we would hope hereafter to entertain or instruct. Not a few men, I imagine, in public life, who have attained eminence, have been at the outset appalled with a sense of their complete failure, and have been strongly tempted to give up at once in utter despair, and hide their heads in obscurity. But the feeling gradually wears away. Calmer reason, or self-love whispers that perhaps the

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discomfiture was not in other eyes so absolute, and perhaps that *all* eyes were not directed to the exhibitor at the unlucky moment; that if it *was* the universal topic, still other topics will *gradually* supersede it; and the result is at length that another effort is made, accompanied, possibly, with less lofty hopes, but with a more careful and vigilant preparation, and a gleam of success, presage of a still brighter day, dawns upon the gloom.

I hope I may be pardoned for these remarks. They certainly stand in need of some apology to those I see around me who have borne the burthen and weight of the Society; but if the genius and talent which have been steadily devoted to the purposes of our association, have gratified while they informed and continued to keep up the interest of our meetings, I would desire to draw our younger members into the same honorable paths, and enable them in time to win the like meed of approbation from their associates, while their best reward will be their own conscious self improvement.

I hope, I say, I shall be forgiven. My only title to be didactic is the position in which your kindness has (for the second time) placed me, as your President.

In the *real* business of the Society, I confess with all humility, *minima pars fui*; but I hope those I address may prove, if *less* honored, *more* useful members.

I feel that some degree of resolution is necessary to resist the seductions of indolence and the fascinations of lighter and less intellectual pursuits. From various causes, of the number of the company which, to borrow the metaphor of a reverend and excellent predecessor in this Chair, embarked together when the ship first left the port, the survivors are but few.

However, our ranks have been supplied, and the Society has proceeded in its course up to this its eighth year with remarkable regularity, under the difficulties and disadvantages arising from the multifarious occupations of its members, engaged as they are in the active duties of life.

Sustained by the untiring energy of our Secretary, and the zeal of those of our members who have felt the great impor-

tance of cultivating intellectual habits, not merely for the immediate gratification derived from a few agreeable hours, but in its permanent effect in the formation of character, the Society has been thus far maintained; and it has during the years which it has lasted, discussed many subjects of interest, and has contributed valuable information through its Almanacks and in other ways, to the public stock. These have formed the subject of former observation from this place.

But it is time to turn to the events and doings of the past year. The Society has lost its Patron, Sir Edmund Head, whose great abilities have recommended him to his present important sphere as Governor General of British North America. His place in our Society, however, has been filled by His Excellency Mr. Manners Sutton, who has with much courtesy consented to succeed him. A few new members have been added to our list.

Owing to domestic affliction in College at the period of our usual assemblage in March, it was found necessary to intermit the meeting of that month.

In April we were favoured with a highly interesting paper from the Rev. W. Shore, which, beside that it afforded much satisfaction to all who heard it, we gladly looked to as an earnest of other contributions from the same very competent hand. Our anticipations, unfortunately, have been disappointed by the departure of the author to seek a distant home in England. His subject was Sepulchral Monuments; but I regret to say the monument of his own talents and industry thus afforded, has been far more transitory than those of which he so well discoursed, and vanished with its author. No trace of it remains among the records of the Society; and I feel it would be doing injustice to Mr. Shore to attempt from memory even a slight analysis of his paper. In opening for us these repositories of the long buried dead which have resisted the ravages of time, we were led to perceive how rich a mine lies sometimes buried under the vast tumuli which, with some variety of outline, are found in many distant regions of the *new* world, as Columbus called it, as well as the old, and how

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vivid a light is every where thence reflected upon the customs and manners of remote times.

The latest of these, the discoveries at Nineveh, among the most ancient memorials of a highly civilized race, have placed before the eyes of the present generation, as fresh after the lapse of thirty centuries as when first from the hands of the sculptor, records of the greatest interest, and signally confirmatory of some most striking passages of the history of the Jewish and Assyrian nations, thus illustrating the author's view of the importance of his subject. It was, however, with the Etrurian remains with which the paper chiefly dealt. These were minutely described, and learnedly discussed; and I must regret that I am unable to pursue his eloquent enquiry on the present occasion.

The Rev. Mr. Ketchum, in May, took for his theme, the Crusades, and gave first a rapid sketch of their history from the time when the holy enterprise was proclaimed by Peter the Hermit, and the successive efforts made by Christendom for the recovery or retention of the Holy Sepulchre, until the death of St. Louis; secondly, he considered the prominent characteristics of this remarkable movement; and thirdly, the important consequences to Europe which they gave rise to, or materially contributed to produce. Having adverted to the exciting cause (the disturbance of the Christian Pilgrims in their visits to the Holy City,) the writer set before us the long and motley array which, gathered from every European nation, swept onward under its remarkable leader, and in its course whitened with its bones the toilsome and perilous track; the mighty and still recurring wave continuing to break on the Eastern shore, until Jerusalem, assailed, taken, and lost, and its recapture fiercely struggled for in vain, gradually ceased in the light of a more sober age, and of a faith less obscured by superstition, to inspire the ardour of conquest.

The mingled character of the Crusades, and the motives which in turn illustrated and debased these famous enterprises, were well though briefly touched. Originating in pure, though as we now consider it, a mistaken view of religious obliga-

tion, their progress was marked by prodigious sacrifices of life and fortune, which were freely made by the devoted champions of the Cross, for the honor of Him whose soldiers they declared themselves; but very early, and probably from the first, in the minds of many, objects far less unworldly mingled with the more lofty and generous aspirations of the leaders.

It is remarkable that in the East, and certainly in a noble cause, we find England and France, (with an interval of six centuries,) *twice* arrayed in friendly arms. The bloody and continuous wars which have unhappily for so many ages raged between these two gallant nations, have crimsoned the pages of their history; and yet to their undying honor all has been forgotten in the hour of Europe's peril, and their only contest is the glorious emulation in the cause of civilization, and in the protection of a weaker and insulted nation. Strange, too, that the Holy Places should have each time furnished the occasion of strife; and that out of a solicitude, real or pretended, connected with those sacred spots, has grown the quarrel which has thus twice cemented the auspicious alliance. But the jealousies and envious bickerings which disturbed its harmony before Jerusalem, in the twelfth century, find no place on the shores of the Crimea, while the daring valour and indomitable energy displayed at Alma, Balaklava, and Inkerman, have alike distinguished the gallant warriors of either nation—a valour which might almost cause the lion-hearted Richard himself to start in his grave, and, could he have witnessed its display, would have proved to him that England's sons, however advanced in the peaceful arts which he perhaps would have despised, were not one whit degenerated from their heroic sires, whom his spirit-stirring voice had so often cheered on to victory, and would have further extorted the acknowledgment that France was worthy of their alliance.

Again we find that in the beginning of the thirteenth century, as Mr. Ketchum tells us, an expedition set out under Count Baldwin, of Flanders, doubtless with proclamation of its holy purpose, bound—

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To chase those Pagans in those holy fields,  
Over whose acres walked those blessed feet,  
Which thirteen hundred years ago were nailed,  
For our advantage, to the bitter Cross."

But this gallant expedition stopped short of its work. What was the cause? The Byzantine Empire, which lay conveniently in his route, presented an easy conquest, and an irresistible temptation; and the Diadem of Constantinople eclipsed in the eyes of this vowed soldier the glories of Jerusalem—his ardour was satisfied, and he proceeded no farther. May we not fear for the virtuous resolution even of the great *Crusader* of the nineteenth century. Surely it is well for the Czar's reputation that the arms of England and France bar the passage to the Bosphorus, lest "Stamboul's moslem minarets" might, perchance, again extinguish the sacred zeal for the temples of Judea.

Among the permanent effects attributed to the Crusades was the depression of the power of the Nobles in many parts of Europe. And undoubtedly the subjection of a fierce and warlike aristocracy, removed from the strongholds where they maintained authority almost independent to the restraint of combined movements under a superior chief, must have been productive of habits of subordination to which they had been previously unaccustomed, not easily to be cast off afterwards. The power of the Popes was largely displayed, and at first perhaps beneficially exerted over the multitudes congregated under the Holy Banner. But the very exposure of the baser leaven which was mingled with the mass, the enlarged experience of men and things resulting from acquaintance with many differing races, and the mutual intercourse of many minds, must no doubt have tended to correct the dreams of enthusiasm, and to reduce all objects, the legitimate power of the hierarchy not excepted, to their proper dimensions; while on the other hand, the spirit of chivalry was kindled by the inspiration of gallant and high-souled achievements, and shone forth in acts of disinterested devotion in the cause of the weak and unprotected. Science moreover was largely extended.



I have dwelt perhaps too long on this interesting paper, and must hasten on.

In June Doctor Robb presented the first of a series of papers which was continued in October, November, and December; papers to us of the greatest value as embodying, in connection with much general information, the earliest notices of our own land, New Brunswick. This has been done by our excellent Secretary in a course of thorough research and sifting enquiry which has produced a body of facts collected from various and distant sources, far more complete than has been before accomplished in any single work, and a considerable portion of which was but very little and very inaccurately known previously.

Dr. Robb has divided his subject into three great periods—the Indian, the French, and the English periods.

In introducing us first to Savage life, in which the materials, though abundant, were still manageable, we were glad to find the more prominent features of the Indian character—stern and unrelenting as it presents itself to the mind—shaded and softened when placed in the light which a more perfect acquaintance with aboriginal manners and customs and habits of life sheds over it. It is refreshing to contemplate the first lord of the soil in other circumstances than when, with stealthy pace and unerring instinct he tracks the object of his relentless hostility, and wreaks his vindictive fury on his defenceless foe; or when with fiendish glee he revels in the tortures of his victim at the stake; or when for the glory of his name in arms, or the adornment of his person in the eyes of some dusky favourite, he tears from his victim the bloody scalp. Yet we cannot read without a shudder the accounts of the first settlement of our ancestors in the American wilderness. Direful were the sanguinary attacks which were occasionally made. An instance of this kind I can well remember to have heard at a very early period—an anecdote well calculated to make the blood run cold—when an ancestor of my own, then an infant in arms, was almost miraculously preserved from a party of Indians, who suddenly and unexpectedly dashed into the house, and

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ransacked it from garret to cellar. The presence of mind of the nurse alone saved both her own life and that of the child. She ran into the cellar, and turned over a large tub, under which she crouched with her helpless charge; and though one of the party struck his tomahawk into the tub under which she lay concealed, happily the child uttered no sound, and they remained undiscovered.

But we have here had the Indian placed before us in the seclusion of his retreat, and surrounded by the friendly members of his tribe and of his family. We have seen him engaged in peaceful pursuits, in the prosecution of those simple arts in which he evinces unrivalled skill; we have even seen him engaged in the pursuits of husbandry.

We certainly cannot call the primæval race a great agricultural people; but Dr. Robb has done something to retrieve their reputation even on this point in the interesting details of their limited farming. He has also made many valuable observations on the structure of the language of the Indian tribes, and has taken much pains to investigate the original Indian names of various localities, with their affinities. Their religious opinions and rites and customs have not escaped his attention.

But the Indian no longer forms the sole object, though he long continues to occupy a prominent place. Two mighty and gallant nations appear upon the stage; rivals in war as we have already seen, and no less in commerce and in colonization, rivals even at the present day, but happily only such in acts of mutual kindness and of daring and endurance in a common cause. It is quite impossible in the narrow limits to which I must confine myself, to attempt even an outline of what has been so well detailed and described in the series of papers in which Doctor Robb has traced the history from the arrival of the first gallant adventurers of both Nations—

“Who sought a home beyond the Atlantic wave.”

England claims the priority of discovery, as referring her first act of possession to the time of the Cabots in 1497, followed, at a considerable interval, by Sir Humphrey Gilbert. France in

1534, through the voyage of Jacques Carter, discovers the mighty river of Canada. France has the merit of following up her attempts at settlement and colonization at first with more zeal and perseverance than our countrymen. The religious element perhaps mingled more fully with the desire of wealth and extended dominion, and stimulated the exertions of powerful friends, with whom the conversion of the savages to the christian faith was the sole object. It was not until a later period that a determination at all hazards, to achieve civil and religious freedom, drew from the shores of England the most remarkable emigration and perhaps the most important in its results that later times have known. But the English Puritans of the 17th century were preceded by the French Huguenots of the 16th, animated by the same principles, and not very dissimilar in the distinguishing character of their creed. In the details here given us, a remarkable coincidence is presented in the fate of two distinguished captains of either nation. The *Sieur Roberval* among the French, and the gallant Englishman, *Sir Humphrey Gilbert*, having in the frail barks of that period both safely surmounted the perils of the out-bound voyage, on their return home, with all their companions, alike found a watery grave. The two nations commencing at different and far distant points on the vast Continent, in course of years gradually approach each other, until an uncertain boundary is claimed on either side in the neighbourhood of the *Kennebec* or *Penobscot*. We have much minute and careful delineation of the operations conducted by both.

What *Dr. Robb* modestly terms a history of *New Brunswick* embraces indeed in a large measure the history common to every part of the *North American Continent*. The efforts of the ill-fated *Roberval* are succeeded by the disastrous attempts at settlement on *Sable Island*, by *De la Roche* and his convicts. Whatever the heinousness of their offence, they must have paid a sufficient penalty during the period that they struggled to maintain life on this inhospitable sand bank. Then we have *Pontgrave* at *Tadoussac*; *Champlain* and *De Monts*, and the interesting narrative of their residence on the little Island of the

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St. Croix, now known as Dosia's Island; Poutrincourt; the Latours, father and son, and the heroic wife of the latter. Dr. Robb thinks, no doubt with sufficient reason, that the tradition-ary opinion that Latour's Fort, the scene of this lady's memor-able defence, was at the Jemseg, is without foundation, and he places it on the western side of St. John Harbour. It is not easy at the present day to decide the question. The circum-stance that Latour's grant fronted on the coast and extended only ten leagues on the river is of itself not quite conclusive of the point. Grants purporting to convey only a certain quan-tity of land have been not unfrequently found sufficiently elastic to cover an extension quite equal, in proportion to the quantity professed to be conveyed, to that which would embrace the Jemseg within the limits of Latour's possessions. In his time, probably, there was no very strict guard on the encroachments of those powerful grantees. It is not impossible, therefore, that in addition to the Forts at the mouth of the Harbour, that which was so well known on the spot in question was built by Latour, as marking the upper limit of his claim on the river.

We have a minute detail of the constantly recurring con-flicts of the two nations at various points, in which Port Royal, now Annapolis, holds a conspicuous place—a locality which has scarcely fulfilled the expectation of those who bestowed upon it its name, French or English, and who seem to have vied with each other in the desire to connect it with the Royalty of either nation. We have also what is, perhaps, more interesting to us, a particular account of the Fort at the Nashwalk, and its gallant defence. In this comprehensive survey much light is thrown on the settlement and early history of Canada, as well as of the English Colonies, under their first Charter Govern-ments, and the gradual development of constitutions, arising out of the inherent principles of British freedom expanding in a congenial soil. At length, by slow degrees, we behold what was of late the hunting ground of the Savage, throughout the vast territory in North America, transformed into the abode of civilized life. Many a feat of daring is here recorded, and much political sagacity brought to light. Kirk, with his brave

companions ; Argall, and his gallant band ; Phipps and Sedgewick ; are here conspicuous. The Pilgrim Fathers, with a still braver spirit, exhibit the courage of patient endurance, united with indomitable resolution, in guarding and advancing their infant settlements. The fisheries, commerce, rising cities, seminaries of learning, and a constantly inflowing population, the feuds—religious and civil—of old Europe, embittering the contests of the New World, in turn arrest our attention. Then follow the ultra conservative doctrines in regard to trade and manufactures which fettered the industry and impeded the progress of the Colonies, until the growing strength of the youthful giant burst the bonds which had been imposed, and led to contentions disastrous in their consequences. The French domain passes under the dominion of her rival. Wolfe triumphs at Quebec ; but ere long the prophetic consolation of his valiant antagonist, Montcalm, is accomplished by the revolt of the thirteen Colonies.

Dr. Robb's narrative concludes at 1762, and during all that period which intervenes from the commencement of the French settlements, a few scattered glimpses are all that we can discover of the condition of our own land. The history of New Brunswick is, in fact, still to begin ; but the author of these valuable papers has laid deep, as well as wide, his foundations ; and I feel satisfied that what is to follow will not disappoint the promise derived from what has been already achieved. I cannot but hope that an undertaking of so much public interest may be fostered, and that sufficient encouragement may be offered to induce Dr. Robb to give to the world the results of his well directed labours.

I cannot pretend to follow further this interesting enquiry, but must in conclusion express the thanks which I am assured we all feel to our worthy Secretary for having conferred by his learned researches, an obligation of no ordinary value on our common country.

The concluding paper of the year was given by Doctor Toldervy on the Electric Telegraph as an instrument for the accurate determination of Longitude. A paper rendered

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particularly interesting as connected with the practical illustration to which the subject was at this time receiving, by the ascertainment, through its means, of the true longitude of Fredericton. Having first clearly pointed out the distinction of time as common to the whole universe, time in the abstract, and local time, or the time in relation to different localities as marked by the Sidereal Clock; and having explained the method of observation by which this Clock is regulated and corrected, and further cleared the way by shewing the process by which longitude in arc or the angular distance between two meridians, may be expressed in parts of a sidereal day or *vice versa*, he proceeded to consider the various methods of ascertaining differences of longitude, the essence of which is stated to be to find what o'clock it is in two places at the same instant of absolute time. The difficulty of this, especially on the unstable footing of a ship's deck in her course through the ocean, is manifest.

The greatly improved Chronometers of the present day have enabled the navigator to approximate to this desirable end, and have conferred an inestimable benefit to commerce. Rockets thrown up from elevated positions have been resorted to with effect where the distances are not very great, but the natural phenomena of the heavens are the great medium. The most reliable of these are stated to be eclipses of Jupiter's Satellites, and of the Moon, and occultations of fixed Stars by the Moon. Lunar distances, the practical application of which has been greatly facilitated by accurate Tables, and meridian transits of the Moon, furnish other and valuable methods.

The actual measurement of the earth's surface is the last mode adverted to prior to the discussion of the more immediate object of the paper, namely, the superior advantage afforded for the purpose by that wonder of the age, the Electric Telegraph. Dr. Toldervy assigns to the Americans the honor of first applying this great invention to the determination of longitudes—an application which has been attempted in England only within the last year.

The utmost efforts of scientific men, had been devoted by

the several astronomical means in use, to ascertain the longitude of Cambridge, Massachusetts, which is the guiding point in all coast surveys in the United States; and it is thither that the zeal of Dr. Toldervy and Professor Jack had been for some time directed, in order to fix the longitude of Fredericton, or to test, by a new method, what had been before adopted as such from observations made by an authority of great respectability. It is probable that that which the unpropitious state of the weather rendered impossible at our last meeting may have been since ascertained, and that the result will be given us by Dr. Toldervy at our present meeting. This highly interesting paper, which terminated somewhat abruptly, was concluded with the expression of a hope that such would be the case.

I am glad to learn that our expectations will not be disappointed.\*

I have thus very imperfectly glanced at the doings of the past year. The length at which I have detained you already forbids a longer trespass upon your patience.

I will only express the gratification I have felt in aiding, though in a very humble way, the progress of this Society; and it will be among my very grateful recollections that I have been enrolled among its members.

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\* For Report on Longitude of Fredericton, as ascertained by Electric Telegraph, see Appendix.

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## APPENDIX.

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*To His Excellency the Honorable JOHN HENRY THOMAS MANNERS SUTTON,  
Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New  
Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Encouraged by Your Excellency's predecessor, we, the undersigned, undertook to verify the Longitude of Fredericton by means of the Electric Telegraph leading therefrom to Boston; and having now accomplished that object, we beg to report to Your Excellency the result of our operations.

1. The Government of the United States has spared neither pains nor money in determining by the most approved astronomical methods, and by interchanges of upwards of one thousand chronometers, the difference of longitude between Greenwich and Harvard College Observatory, in order that the latter might serve as a point of reference in conducting the operations of the Coast Survey. By our telegraphic communication with Boston, and through the kind co-operation of Professor Bond and his assistants, we have, at a comparatively insignificant amount of trouble and expenditure, been enabled to avail ourselves of the labours undertaken for the above mentioned purpose, and thus to ascertain the longitude of Fredericton with probably an equal degree of precision.

2. It was originally intended to have an unbroken telegraphic communication between the Fredericton Observatory and that of Harvard University; but in consequence of the wires from the latter to the office in Boston being out of repair, Professor Bond found it necessary to trust to two excellent sidereal chronometers for the interval, and remarks that "on examination, I am induced to believe that no greater error has arisen from this source than would have taken place had the communication been made from the room adjoining the Transit Instrument."



3. Professor Bond's chronometers were carefully and repeatedly compared with his Transit Clock, and with each other, both before and after interchanging signals, so as to ascertain their error and rate: and at both Observatories, on each day of operations, the meridian passages of a number of stars were observed in order to obtain the error and rate of the Transit Clocks. But we need not trouble Your Excellency with the tedious details and long calculations connected with this part of the work.

4. On the evening of the 23rd of January 1855, we received the first series of signals from Boston. Mr. Coolidge (Mr. Bond's assistant) commenced at an even minute by his chronometer, and sent us second beats for fifty consecutive seconds. This was continued for ten successive minutes, beginning always at the even minute, and we carefully noted the times by our Transit Clock. On examining all we found that the times of first signal would be as exhibited in

TABLE I.

	Clock Time.	Clock Error +.	True Sidereal Time.
	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
At Fredericton, ..	6 29 37.7	1 40.18	6 27 57.52
At Cambridge, ..	6 10 21.5	(8.96+12.5=) 21.36	6 10 0.14
Difference of Longitude = 0 17 57.38			

5. On the evening of the 2nd February, we took the initiative, and sent a series of signals to Boston, the result from which is given in

TABLE II.

	Clock Time.	Clock Error +.	True Sidereal Time.
	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
At Fredericton, ..	6 38 0	2 25.88	6 35 34.12
At Cambridge, ..	6 18 13.3	(12.68+23.8=) 36.48	6 17 36.82
Hence the difference of Longitude = 0 17 57.30			

On the same evening we sent another series, and the result deduced from them is shewn in

TABLE III.

	Clock Time.	Clock Error $\pm$ .	True Sidereal Time.
	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
At Fredericton, ..	6 49 0	2 25.88	6 46 34.12
At Cambridge, ..	6 29 13.3	36.48	6 28 36.82
Hence the difference of Longitude = 0 17 57.30			

On the same evening, we received from Cambridge a series of signals, which give a result exhibited in

TABLE IV.

	Clock Time.	Clock Error $\pm$ .	True Sidereal Time.
	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
At Fredericton, ..	7 4 23.6	2 25.88	7 1 57.72
At Cambridge, ..	6 44 37	36.48	6 44 0.52
Hence the difference of Longitude = 0 17 57.20			

6. On the evening of the 10th of February, we were again in telegraphic communication with Boston; and the result of the first series of signals which were sent from Fredericton and recorded at Boston, is exhibited in

TABLE V.

	Clock Time.	Clock Error $\pm$ .	True Sidereal Time.
	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
At Fredericton, ..	7 1 0	3 23.7	6 57 36.3
At Cambridge, ..	6 40 27.05	(17.49 + 30.4 =) 47.89	6 39 39.16
Hence the difference of Longitude = 0 17 57.14			

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The second series of signals, on the same evening, was transmitted from Boston and recorded at Fredericton, and the result is as shown in

TABLE VI.

	Clock Time.	Clock Error $\pm$ .	True Sidereal Time.
	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
At Fredericton, ..	7 17 21	3 23.7	7 13 57.3
At Cambridge, ..	6 56 48	47.89	6 56 0.11
Hence the difference of Longitude = 0 17 57.19			

We next sent a series of signals to Boston, the result derivable from which is given in

TABLE VII.

	Clock Time.	Clock Error $\pm$ .	True Sidereal Time.
	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
At Fredericton, ..	7 43 0	3 23.7	7 39 36.3
At Cambridge, ..	7 22 27	47.89	7 21 39.11
Hence the difference of Longitude = 0 17 57.19			

We then received from Boston and recorded at Fredericton another series of signals (the fourth for the same evening), the result of which is shewn in

TABLE VIII.

	Clock Time.	Clock Error $\pm$ .	True Sidereal Time.
	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
At Fredericton, ..	7 51 21	3 23.7	7 47 57.3
At Cambridge, ..	7 30 48	(17.49 $\pm$ 30.4) 47.89	7 30 0.11
Hence the difference of Longitude = 0 17 57.19			

And lastly, we received from Cambridge a single tap for the purpose of comparing clocks, and the result deducible from it is exhibited in

TABLE IX.

	Clock Time.	Clock Error +-.	True Sidereal Time.
	h. m. s.	m. s.	h. m. s.
At Fredericton, ..	8 7 21	3 23.7	8 3 57.3
At Cambridge, ..	7 46 46	47.89	7 46 0.11
Hence the difference of Longitude = 0 17 57.19			

7. On examining the operations of February 10th, it will be perceived that the second beats of the Boston Chronometer and the Fredericton Transit Clock continued synchronous throughout, and therefore they must have had the same rate. Hence the same clock errors are applicable to the whole of the series for the evening. We may remark that the results obtained from this last night's work are considered the most complete and satisfactory, and from them alone the difference of longitude would be  $0^h 17^m 57.18^s$ . If, however, we take the mean of all the operations, the difference would be  $0^h 17^m 57.23^s$ ; and as Cambridge Observatory is  $4^h 44^m 30.66^s$  west of Greenwich, it follows that the longitude of Fredericton is  $4^h 26^m 33.43^s$  west of Greenwich. Converting the above time into arc, we have

Longitude of Fredericton, - - - - -  $66^\circ 38' 21.5''$

The Crown Land Department makes it,  $66 \quad 37 \quad 54$

Difference, - - - - -  $27.5$

This difference is smaller than could have been anticipated, or than we should have been warranted in assuming.

8. The longitude of Fredericton having been thus verified and ascertained with an exactness much greater than it could have been done by any other method, it might be used as a centre of operations for determining, with equal exactness, the longitudes of all the other places in the Province that are con-

nected with it by Telegraph wires. To do this would be a matter of much importance to the geography of the country in general ; and so far as the sea-ports are concerned, it would also be of great service to navigation.

9. In conclusion, we would beg to observe to Your Excellency that we are much indebted to Professor Bond for his kindness and courtesy in co-operating with us, and for the gratuitous services which he has rendered. We are also under deep obligations to the different Telegraph Companies between Fredericton and Boston for the readiness with which they placed their lines at our disposal, and for the attention and liberality which we uniformly experienced at their hands.

We beg to subscribe ourselves,

Your Excellency's

Obedient and humble servants,

J. B. TOLDERVY,

W. B. JACK.

*Fredericton, March 5, 1855.*

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