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REPORT

OF THE

Commissioners

COMMISSIONERS

FOR EXPLORING THE COUNTRY

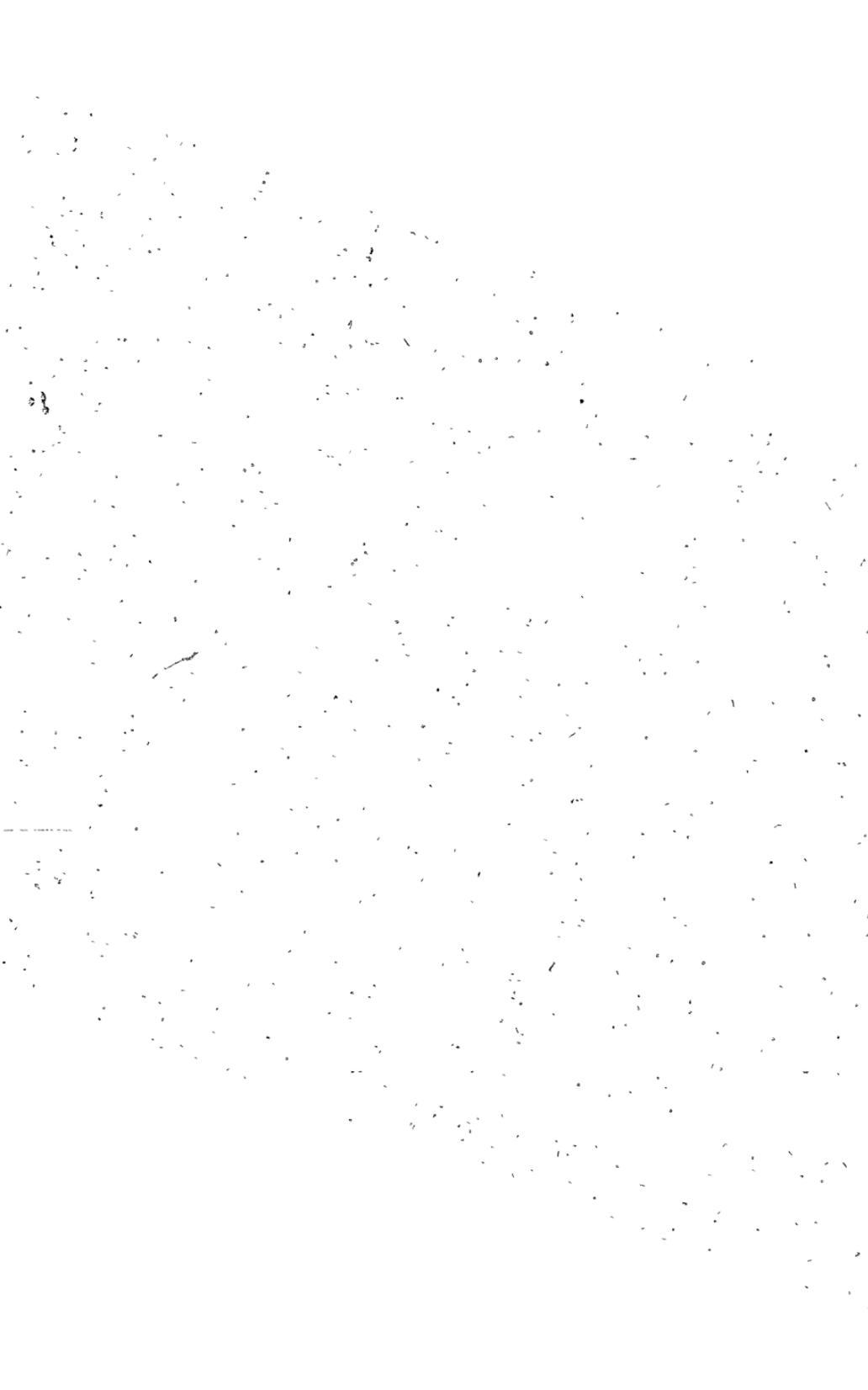
LYING BETWEEN THE

RIVERS SAGUENAY, SAINT MAURICE

AND

SAINT LAWRENCE.

Ordered by the *HOUSE of ASSEMBLY* to be printed
22nd March, 1831.



REPORT.

To the Honorable the Knights, Citizens and Burgesses
of Lower Canada in Provincial Parliament assembled.

THE undersigned, Commissioners for more completely exploring certain parts of this Province under an Act passed in the ninth year of His Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to appropriate certain sums of money for more completely exploring certain parts of the Province," have the honor to report for the information of your Honorable House, that the deficiency in the funds provided "for exploring the tract of country to the north of the River and Gulph of Saint Lawrence, commonly called the King's Posts, and the lands adjacent thereto," amounted to the sum of two hundred and thirty nine pounds eight shillings and eleven pence half penny currency, which they have paid and transmitted the regular Vouchers therefor to the proper authorities.

That the remaining balance of two hundred and sixty pounds eleven shillings and a halfpenny currency, has been applied as follows, to wit :—

To the exploring of the triangular tract of country lying below Quebec, between the Rivers St. Lawrence and Saguenay, having for its apex the point of confluence immediately opposite Tadoussac, and for its base a line running from Ha Ha Bay to Cap Tourment, which has been surveyed by Mr. Andrews, under directions given to him by the undersigned Commissioners. His Report is subjoined under the letter A.

The survey of the country lying between Quebec and the St. Maurice, in the rear of the existing settlements, was confided to two different Gentlemen; their Reports will be found under the letters B. and C., hereunto subjoined. The expenses of these two surveys amount to the sum of three hundred and forty five pounds two shillings and three pence

pence currency, the accounts whereof have in like manner been transmitted to the proper authorities.

Quebec, 22d March, 1830.

A. STUART,
DAVID STUART.

A.

To,
Andrew Stuart and David Stuart, Esquires, Commissioners for exploring the Country lying between the Saguenay, St. Maurice and St. Lawrence Rivers.

In pursuance of your Instructions to me, under date 13th of June, 1829, to procure information respecting, and explore, as far as practicable, the triangular tract of country bounded on the one side by the shores of the St. Lawrence, from Cape Tourment to Tadoussac; on the other side by that part of the River Saguenay which lies between Tadoussac and the westernmost side of Ha Ha Bay, and by its base, being a line running from that westernmost side to Cape Tourment, I have the honor to lay before you the Journal kept during my expedition, trusting that, however deficient it may appear in point of science and language, it will be found to be, what I have endeavoured to make it, a true and faithful account.

I am, with great respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed,)

N. ANDREWS.

Quebec, September, 1829.

JOURNAL

JOURNAL of an EXPEDITION for exploring the country between the Rivers St. Lawrence and Saguenay, as far as Ha Ha Bay; by NICH. ANDREWS:

Wednesday, June 17, 1829. Embarked at six A. M. on board the Schooner *Heloise*, Captain April, bound for Malbay, who is to land me at St. Paul's Bay. I have been employed, ever since the 6th instant, in getting the provisions, and every other necessary for the journey in readiness. On the 12th I engaged two men to accompany me, viz: Charles Verreaux, a *bois brulé*, (half breed) as voyageur and guide in the woods, and D. Paulin, the former at fifteen, and the latter at ten dollars, per month. It being a perfect calm all day we came to anchor at the ebb tide at the lower end of the Isle of Orleans at two P. M., and getting under weigh again with the tide at 7 P. M. got to below Cape Tourment, where we anchored. The weather was exceedingly warm, and the thermometer stood on board at noon, at 89°.

Thursday, 18th. Early this morning we were opposite St. Paul's Bay, but the wind being off the land, and the tide running at a great rate, the Captain could not put me on shore with my men and baggage, and it was with much trouble I landed at one P. M., at Le Grand Debarquement, at Malbay, near Pointe au Pic. I took up my lodging at Mr. Chaperon's, and my men were at Edward Verreaux. The Thermometer was at 87° on board the Schooner at noon.

Friday, 19th. Employed this day in procuring all the information I could respecting the interior country. Being informed that there was a party of Indians encamped at the Little Lakes, I sent up for one of them to come down to me, as those people are best acquainted with these parts in every direction. The heat not so great as yesterday; the Thermometer was at 6 A. M. at 62°; at noon at 76°. and at 6 P. M. at 67°.

Saturday, 20th. Passed this day also at Malbay waiting for the Indians, but not one of them made their appearance. In the afternoon it rained hard, and the air cool. Thermometer at 59° in the morning; 75°, at noon, 54° in the evening.

Sunday, 21st. Still raining all the forenoon; in the afternoon it cleared up with a strong north west wind, and I agreed with Mr. Chaperon to take me at St. Paul's Bay. Got all things ready for starting the first fair tide and weather. Thermometer at 53° at 6 A. M.; 65° at noon; and 51° at 6 P. M.

Monday, 22d. Left Malbay at one A. M. for St. Paul's Bay, in Mr. Chaperon's boat. We had no wind, but the tide being in our favor we got

got to St. Paul's Bay at 9 A. M. Put up at Mr. George Chaperon's where I was very kindly received. Mr. G. Chaperon accompanied me to several persons to obtain information respecting the interior country, but I learnt little satisfactory; the best information I got, on which I could place dependance, was, from the Rev. Mr. Gagnon, but as he stated it was the same he had given to Mr. David Stuart's party, in the Spring, it is unnecessary to detail it here. If a volcano does exist in the country I am directed to explore, I will do my best to discover it.

Tuesday, 23rd. At 9 A. M. departed from Mr. Chaperon's; and when I came to the Church I was informed there was a man, a league up the River, who was well acquainted with the country at the back of the Bay: I accordingly went up the River to see him, and found him at a Saw Mill, but his knowledge did not extend more than two leagues into the interior, so I returned to the Church where I had left my baggage, and took the Cape Tourment Road. At 7 P. M. got to the last houses of St. Antoine, where I had put to up for the night. It rained a little this evening.

Wednesday, 24th. Engaged a horse and cart to take our baggage to the fourth house on the Cape Road, where we arrived at 11 A. M. Breakfasted, and entered the bush. We travelled for four hours continually up hill, and then down hill for about one hour; we then came to a level of about two leagues in every direction. We crossed several small streams. The soil generally black mould, and the timber of small growth; we saw very little pine or cedar, and little else but spruce and fir, with occasionally red spruce. The brush wood is very difficult to pass through; the *cormier*, (service tree,) alder and wild cherries are in abundance in this valley. At 6 P. M. the Thermometer was at 59°. Our course was N. N. W. from the Cape Road.

Thursday, 25th.—Left our encampment a little after 6 A. M. and crossed a small Stream, up to the middle in water. I take this Stream to be a Branch of Le Bras which falls into St. Paul's River, a little above the Church; we there struck again into the bush, in the same N. N. W. course, and began to ascend, which brought us to the foot of a very high Mountain, the Summit of which we only reached at 2 P. M. From this spot we could distinguish the South shore of the St. Lawrence, from St. Thomas to Kamouraska, P'Isle aux Coudres, les Eboulemens, and part of St. Paul's Bay; it took us four hours to descend the other side of the Mountain, and we encamped at the foot of it for the night by the side of a rivulet of excellent water. The country through which we travelled to day was all but impenetrable. The old fallen trees lay so thick, and overgrown with Saplings and Brushwood, that we could not see each other at the distance of four yards. The timber appears worthless, except on the Banks of the Streams where there

there are some Spruce and Birch trees, which might be serviceable if accessible. The Soil is indifferent in the low grounds; it is a light sandy mould, and on the Hills a reddish Clay, full of stones. The Thermometer, which I shall except where otherwise expressed in future note as follows, stood at 51° , 60° and 62° ; the first number being the degree observed at 6 A. M. the second at noon, and the third at 6 P. M. We were much fatigued when we encamped, and our Clothes all torn. The Swarms of Mosquitoes tormented us extremely, and they are the only living thing we have seen to day, not even a Bird or a Squirrel made its appearance.

Friday, 26th.—Early this morning we had a few drops of rain, but it soon cleared up, and little after 6 A. M. we proceeded farther into the interior. At noon we reached the top of another high Mountain, from which I could see a great distance, and nothing appearing towards the interior but Mountain succeeding after Mountain, as far as I could see with my perspective Glass, I determined on returning by a short cut, to River St. Paul. We dined on the Summit, and descending into a deep Valley, at half after four P. M. we fell upon a small River running between the Mountains, which we followed till 6 P. M. when we encamped for the night. Along this River we found some large Fir and Spruce, with here and there some Cedar; Birch is scarce. The Country appeared the same as yesterday in every respect. Thermometer at 49, 69 and 66° .

Saturday, 27th.—Began our march at 6 A. M. along the Little River, and at noon came to its junction with Le Bras, which falls into the River St. Paul, a little above the Church. We came down along the Mountains Pereaue, where we dined, and in the afternoon went up to St. Urbain's Church, and put up for the night at M. Côté's. Thermometer 57, 76 and 61° .

Sunday, 28th.—After Mass I conversed with many of the Inhabitants of this Parish, among whom I found one who gave me the best intelligence respecting the interior of the Country, of any I had hitherto obtained. This man, whose name is Godefride Girard, I engaged to accompany me through the interior as far as Malbay. I am to allow him two shillings a day, and his fare. It rained hard all ay. Thermometer 48, 52 and 46° .

Monday, 29th.—Yesterday it rained hard, but the whole of this day it has poured down without intermission, so that every little Rivulet has become a River; we have been weatherbound in consequence all day. The rain accompanied by a cold N. E. wind. Thermometer 46, 57 and 40° .

Tuesday,

Tuesday; 30th.—The weather cleared up, and a little after 3 A. M. we set off, directing the guide to take me through the pass of the Mountains. We followed the High Road rather more than half a league; passing the Bridge of Le Petit Bras, we turned to the left, and continued following an old foot path, which brought us to a small River, to pass over which we felled a large Tree, as it was, from the heavy rain we had had, too deep to ford. We now began to ascend the Mountains by a gentle slope, still following the old path. We crossed several small Streams of no note, and at last fell upon a rivulet, between two very high Mountains, which we followed up, and which brought us to the summit of the first range of Mountains at 6 P. M. We put up for the night, on the borders of a fine little Meadow. Some of the Inhabitants of St. Urbain, used it to come here a few years ago to make hay, and there were a few bundles or stacks still remaining in several places. In coming up the Mountains we saw iron ore in different places; we did not see, during the day's journey, any full grown Trees of any kind. The wood was all burnt down some years ago, and a new growth of Aspen, Birch, Spruce and Fir, is springing up, with various kinds of wild Fruit. The Soil is in general reddish sand and clay, encumbered with large stones. The Mountain we ascended this Day is not so steep but it might admit of a good cart Road being made. The Hills between Les Eloulemens and Malbay are much steeper. Godefride Girard, my guide, while we were coming up the Mountain to day, pointed out to me a high and steep Pinnacle Rock on the side of the Mountain, where he told me that five years ago, a water spout, (*pompe d'eau*) had burst, and caused so great a flood, that it carried away three bridges, two upon the Little Bras above S. Urbain's Church, and one upon St. Paul's River. This he says all the Inhabitants of his Parish can confirm; for my part, I have his authority alone, and give it as he told it to me. Thermometer this day 56, 57 and 50 °.

Wednesday, July 1st—Started a little after 6 A. M. and continued our Route N. N. W. We crossed several small Streams of excellent water, on the borders of which grass grows in abundance, after this we reached a comparatively level tract of Land surrounded on all sides by high Mountains. It is by no means perfectly level, being diversified with Hills and Vallies, but the Hills are neither so high nor so steep but that they can be cultivated to their very tops. This tract extends to the Source of St. Anne's River, and reaches to Malbay River. The former River takes its rise from several small Lakes, and it appeared to me, from the top of a high Mountain, to receive not far from its source, several Streams descending from the westward between very high Mountains. Malbay River also runs between a range of high Mountains, both above and below this place. I take this comparatively level tract to be about six leagues in extent every way, but in Serpentine form. There

There appears to me to be cultivable Land enough for from twelve to fifteen hundred Inhabitants. The Soil is good, being generally a black loamy mould, mixed with clay, and a few stones. The climate I take to be better than at St. Paul's Bay, as all the wild berries are much nearer ripe than there and near the coast. There are strawberries, raspberries, blue berries, elderberries, black cherry, goosberries, the *pabinac* and *cormier*, (service tree.) The Timber I saw, consisted of Fir, Spruce, white and black Birch, and red Spruce; neither Pine nor Cedar are to be seen. But the whole is almost one continued burnt field, excepting round the little Lakes, and in the Vallies. In many parts an industrious man might clear Land enough in one Month, to sow forty bushels of grain; and grass is produced every where. The only Route of Communication with this interior tract is by Land from St. Paul's Bay, through the pass of the Mountains, where a Road might be easily opened, at no great expense; one of the Mountains over which it must pass, is a long one, but not steep. The principal difficulty settlers would have to experience, would be the great distance they would have to go to fetch Timber, and even firewood. At 6 P. M. we encamped by the side of a fine little Lake, much fatigued and hungry. The men tried with the hook and line, but could catch no fish. Thermometer to day, 40, 59 and 56 °.

If there is a Volcano in these parts, it must be beyond the St. Anne's River, in a range of high Mountains to the Westward of it. I would advise any person who may be led by curiosity to seek for it, to ascend the St. Anne's River till opposite St. Paul's Bay, and then explore the Mountains to the Westward. Hitherto I have discovered no mines, mineral waters or minerals of any description, except iron ore, which is found in many places, in small quantities.

Thursday, 2d—Left our encampment a little after 6 o'clock, A. M., and proceeded in a north easterly direction, towards Malbay, for about a league, through a country the same as yesterday; we then came to the foot of a high mountain, which took us three hours to ascend. From its summit I could see at least twelve leagues in every direction. It was so steep that we were obliged to go about a league back, to find a passage down its side. In descending we met with a bank of snow from four to six feet deep, although exposed to the midday sun. The nearer we approach Malbay, the higher the mountains, and the more rugged the country becomes. This Country seems destitute of every thing that is, or can be useful to man. The little timber we saw was fir, spruce and birch of small growth. Encamped

at six P. M., between two mountains. Weather cloudy all day, with a cool easterly wind. Thermometer, 51. 63 and 57 °.

Friday 3d.—Started at 6 A. M. on our way to Malbay; continually going up hill till noon, and climbing mountain after mountain; when we came to the last, we took our dinner. From this height I could perceive all the concessions of Malbay, and the whole Parish of St. Paul's; also part of Les Eboulemens, and many leagues of the south shore. The course of the River St. Paul's is due north; Malbay River runs N. W. and N. N. W. as far as I could see. We were on the last range of mountains from this to the Malbay Lakes, which were plainly distinguished. At one P. M. we began to descend, and it took us four hours before we got to the foot of the mountain. Here we fell into a level country, which reaches from the Malbay Lakes to River St. Paul, a little above St. Urbain's church. It is watered by many little streams, and has a small Lake in its centre. It stretches four or five leagues every day. We crossed several little Rivers from the foot of the mountains to a little lake, where we encamped for the night. The soil is black mould, with a stiff greyish clay underneath. The timber fir, spruce, birch and cypress, the latter being the first I have seen since I entered the bush, alders, willows and *cormier* are seen all over, and all kinds of wild berries grow in abundance. Stones I saw but few, except on the banks of the rivulets. Though the weather is cool, the mosquitoes and sand-flies are very troublesome. The wind all day from the N. E.: our course to day was the same as yesterday. Thermometer, 50. 61. and 63 °.

Saturday 4th—Left our encampment at 6 A. M. direct for the Malbay Lakes; we passed first over a tract, where the soil is pure sand, producing nothing but cypress. A middle sized river passes through the centre of this sandy ground, which runs into St. Paul's River; afterwards we came to a swamp overgrown with long grass, and low shrubs, which brought us to another River, larger than the former, when we waded over up to the middle; we then went over some newly burnt woodland, and came at four P. M. to the Lake just at the Seigniorial line. This tract of country is well known to the inhabitants of St. Paul's and Malbay, so that there is no occasion to say much about it. It took us three hours to go round the lake, and at seven P. M. we arrived among the inhabitants at the little Lake, where we put up for the night
at

at the house of a Mr. Gaye, very much harrassed and fatigued: The grain growing about this Lake has a good appearance. Thermometer, 53. 75. and 69 °.

Sunday, 5th—This morning I engaged the man of the house to take me, with our baggage, with his horse and cart, down to the Church at Malbay, for which I gave him five shillings, the distance is three leagues. Arrived there at 8 A. M. and took up my quarters at Mr. Chaperon's. Here I discharged my guide from St. Urbain's, Girard, and paid him for his services. Wishing to purchase a canoe, made enquiries, and was given to understand there is one for sale up the Malbay River. Thermometer, 68. 77. and 65 °.

Monday, 6th—After breakfast went up the River to look at the canoe, but found it was too small for my purpose, went to look after another, but did not succeed. Thermometer, 66. 81. and 68 °.

Tuesday, 7th—Succeeded in purchasing a canoe, for which I paid five dollars; and got every thing in readiness for starting tomorrow. Thermometer, 64. 73. and 61 °.

Wednesday, 8th—It began to rain last night, and continued all this day, so that I remained here weather bound. Thermometer, 52. 69. and 45 °.

Thursday, 9th—After breakfast set off, with my two men, to go up the River Malbay. Hired a horse and cart to take our provisions &c. up to where our canoe was. Got there at two P. M. and set the men to gum the canoe, and make paddles and setting poles for themselves. Took up our abode at a farm house. Thermometer, 56. 69. and 65 °.

Friday, 10th—Embarked at 11 A.M. in our canoe, and proceeded up the River, which is one continued rapid, so that we had to use the setting poles constantly. With much labour and trouble we reached the upper Bridge at noon, when we put ashore to gum the canoe, and take dinner. At half past one, P. M. set off again, the two men in the canoe, and myself on foot along the River. At 6 P. M. encamped for the night, a little above Harris's Saw Mill. I got to this place an hour before the canoe. This is on the Seigniorial line of Malbay, and thus far the River is a continual rapid ;

rapid: in two places, we had to carry the canoe and baggage. Weather fine and warm all day. Thermometer, 56. 69. 50 °.

Sunday, 11th—We were again on the water, a little after 6 A.M. going up rapid after rapid. I went by land, and took short cuts, over hill and dale, striking the River at intervals. At noon I came to the foot of a long and bad rapid, where I lit a fire, and waited for the men. They did not arrive till 4 P. M. with the canoe half full of water, and entirely discouraged. Seeing they were so much disheartened, and with a long and difficult rapid before us, to which we could see no end. I came to the resolution of returning, considering that it would be only losing time to continue labouring up this River. We therefore embarked at 5 P. M. to run down the River, and at seven found ourselves at Harris's Saw Mill, where we put up for the night. It rained, and finding no person here, we slept in the Mill. All our things being wet, we made a fire in a stove we found here, to dry them through the night. Thermometer, 65. 70. and 63 °.

Sunday, 12th—Embarked again at six A. M. and run down the River. At 9 A. M. we were at the upper Bridge, where we found three cabins of Abenakis Indians. I engaged one of them to show me the winter road from this to Anse St. Jean, on the River Saguenay, and sent my two men down to Mr. Chaperon's for more provisions. In the afternoon it rained hard. My men did not return to day, and I took lodgings at Mr. Alexander M^cNicol's for the night. Thermometer, 65. 70. and 63 °.

Monday, 13th—Early this morning my two men arrived with a supply of provisions, and every thing being put in readiness, and being joined by my Abenakis guide, at 8 A. M. we began our march once more in the bush. For some time we followed an old road that the inhabitants had made to haul wood and timber out; then we entered a burnt field between two ranges of high mountains, which we followed till we encamped at 6 P. M. At this place we were about two leagues from the Seigniorial line of Malbay. We travelled about four leagues to day, all the way over burnt ground, overgrown with brushwood, chiefly young spruce. We had, for the most part, to walk upon fallen trees, crossing each other, three or four feet high, and upon large stones, round which the earth is all burnt to ashes. The fire seems equally to have passed over the mountains. What wood I saw to day

day was all spruce and fir, with here and there a birch tree. In the course of the day, we crossed two little Rivers, that empty themselves into the Malbay River. Thermometer, 50. 86. and 68 °.

Tuesday, 14th—After passing a miserable night in the rain, we set out, and proceeded in a N. N. W. direction, towards the Little Saguenay River. At noon we came to two small lakes, at the last of which we found an old camp, where a canvas tent still remained, which our Indian guide informed me, was left last winter by Messrs. Brownson and M. Nicol. We encamped at the end of the last lake, at 4 P. M. as it began to rain hard. The country we have come through, is burnt land, the same as yesterday, excepting about the lakes where it is swampy, with green brushwood. Thermometer, 59. 72. and 63 °.

Wednesday, 15th—This morning I discharged my Abenakis guide, having no further occasion for his services, as Verreaux is capable of acting as guide about these parts. I paid the Abenakis ten shillings for coming thus far. After drying our clothes and blankets, we left our encampment, and proceeded towards the Little Saguenay, still in a N. N. W. direction. The burnt wood continued about a league beyond the little lakes, and then we ascended a mountain that was long, although not steep. From the top we could see the Black Lake, the source of Riviere Noire. After dining, we descended the mountain by a gentle slope, along which a good road might be made with ease. A little before six P. M. we arrived at the western end of the Black Lake, where we encamped for the night. The only timber seen to day was fir, spruce, and here and there a white birch, all of small growth. Wild berries grew in abundance in many places. The soil reddish sand, full of large stones all over, which would be a great obstacle in the way of a summer road. Thermometer, 65. 76. and 72 °.

Thursday, 16th.—Had a little rain this morning, but not enough to prevent us from continuing our journey. We came to a very small Lake or rather Pond, not far from the Little Saguenay, where Verreaux shot five wild Ducks. We breakfasted by the side of it, and finding that we were too short of provisions to proceed farther towards Riviere St. Jean, for the present, I found it necessary to return to Malbay, and take this afterwards again in my way from Anse St. Jean in the Saguenay.

may. Thus far it is easy to make a winter road from Malbay, but as for a good summer road it is out of the question, without great expense. Our course from Malbay to this was N. and N. N. E. Here we took at S. S. E. course. About half a league from the last mentioned Pond we ascended a high mountain, from which I had a view in every direction. The whole country appears to be very mountainous, particularly towards the St. Lawrence and Malbay. Upon the hills of the Little Saguenay, there appears to be a level of considerable extent on both sides towards the Saguenay. From this mountain I could see the whole chain of mountains, north of the Saguenay and Riviere St. Marguerite, as well as those of the Saguenay about La Trinité. In the course of this afternoon, we crossed several small streams that run into Riviere Noire; they all run between high mountains; two of these we crossed, which had formerly been burnt off, and where now over grown with tangled shrubbery, to such a degree that it was very difficult to pass through it. We encamped at 6 P. M. much fatigued, in the midst of a *brulé*, or burnt field, close to a little spring of water, in a tuft of spruce and fir. Timber, same as yesterday, and mostly burnt some years ago. The wild berries almost all ripe. Flies insufferable, especially the sandflies. Thermometer 68, 73, and 69 °.

Friday, 17th.—Started at 6 A.M. for Malbay. Travelled all day over burnt ground, some of it having been very lately burnt, and the wood still standing so close that we tore our hands, faces, and clothes, every instant. It was very uneven, hill and dale. From the top of one of the hills I could see a succession of seven small lakes, some of them lying within the Seigniorship of Malbay. I saw no timber fit for any use but firewood. There is no pine or cedar till near Malbay. The soil in general a reddish dry sand. Wild berries only a few, but all ripe till near Malbay. We crossed two Rivers with water enough in each for a Mill. At after 6 P. M. we arrived among the inhabitants of the upper part of Malbay River, and put up, much tired, at one of their houses for the night. We were all as black as negroes, from the effects of the burnt wood and sweat. The sun was burning hot on the *brulés*, and in the gullies. Thermometer, 58, 79, and 62 °.

Saturday, 18th.—This morning I engaged a man to take me and my baggage, with his horse and cart, down to the Bay; and I arrived at 9 A. M. at Mr. Chaperon's, my old lodgings at Malbay. I sent my men and baggage to Point au Fic, (where my canoe is,) with orders to gum it, and get all things in readiness to start for the River Saguenay, on Monday morning. Thermometer, 48, 77, and 56 °.

Sunday, 19th.—Nothing particular to-day, save that the Waterloo Steamboat came down here on a pleasure trip. We had several showers of rain, Thermometer, 56, 83, and 61 °.

Monday,

Monday, 20th.—Went early this morning to Pointe au Pic, and launched the canoe, but were obliged to haul it up again, as it began to rain, and the wind blew too hard for us to proceed. We passed the day at Pointe au Pic, and towards evening it blew a hurricane. The Thermometer stood at 63, 76, and 62 °.

Tuesday, 21st.—At 9 A. M. embarked in the Canoe, with my two men, provisions, &c. and at 3 P. M. at Port au Persil, or MacLaren's settlement. We put up here for the night. At this place there are only four houses; Mr. M'Leod has a fine Saw Mill here. I had some conversation with several men who have been employed for several years in hauling Timber to the Saw Mill; but they knew nothing of the country below Rivière Noire, except that it was all over mountainous. Thermometer, 67, 89 and 71 °.

Wednesday, 22nd—Left Port au Persil at 8 A. M. and went into the Bay of Port au Quilles. Here we stowed our provisions away in an old fishing hut, and placed the canoe in safety in the bush. This Bay is one league below Riviere Noire, and two from Port au Persil. We then entered the bush, along the Little River. The hills are very high. We continued going up hill till 6 P. M. when we encamped by the side of a little brook which just afforded water enough for our use. From this spot we could not see the St. Lawrence, but the interior is visible for a great distance. From Port au Quilles to this, the hills are poorly stocked with wood; there are a few maples trees, here and there, and some scattered pines and cedars of inferior quality; birch, spruce and fir are the most common; the brushwood is thickly intertwined, and of different sorts: what little soil there is is good, but for one foot of it, there are ten of stones or rocks. Thermometer, 65. 83. and 75 °.

Thursday, 23rd—Started at 6 A. M. towards the interior. Descended into a deep valley, much encumbered with fallen trees and brushwood. After which we ascended a high mountain whence we discerned seven small lakes. Round about these lakes there is a small extent of level land, overgrown with stunted spruce, birch, &c. We passed between these lakes: the largest is not more than a league in circumference. About a league beyond the last of them, we came to a high and naked mountain, which we ascended, and from the top could see the hills of the Saguenay. We descended on the north side, and encamped for the night at the foot of it, on the bank of a little brook, of good water,

water, that runs into one of the small lakes we had passed. The soil throughout this day's journey, is a light black mould of an inferior quality. About the lakes it is rather swampy, and in some places, we sank up to the knees in the moss. I saw no pine, cedar, nor maple to day; nothing but red and white spruce, with here and there a small birch and aspen. The underwood is very thick, and intermixed. Berries abundant in many places, but quite green yet. Thermometer, 66. 79. and 68 °.

Friday, 24th—Started at 6 A. M. and went in a straight course to where we had left our canoe and baggage. Arrived there at noon, and found all safe. After taking our dinner, we embarked and went down to Baie des Roches, and encamped at the entrance of the Little River. This Bay is about two miles deep. We saw many porpoises and seals. Thermometer, 64. 76. and 68 °.

Saturday, 25th—After placing our canoe and baggage in safety, we breakfasted; and at 7 A. M. began to ascend the hills, which are pretty high and steep at this place. From the height we saw two little lakes, towards which we directed our course. At noon we reached the one farthest off, which is about a league and a half from Baie des Roches. As I neither found or saw any thing in this quarter worth mentioning, I returned by another route over the hills, but all was the same. Timber and brushwood the same as yesterday. On the hills near the Bay there are some fine birch and cedar trees. At 6 P. M. we were again in our camp, at the Bay. Thermometer, 67. 82. and 71 °.

Sunday, 26th—Embarked at 7 A. M. to go down to Baie de l'Echaffaud du Basque, or Riviere aux Canards, but when we reached the Point of Baie des Roches, the wind blew too hard for us to proceed, and we put ashore in a little cove till noon, when we embarked again, and kept close in shore with the tide and wind in our favor. We had not proceeded far when we were pursued by a monstrous fish of prey, in consequence of which we put ashore again. This animal was four hours about us, and apparently watching us. It came sometimes within twenty feet of the rock on which we were. It was at least from twenty to twenty-five feet long, and shaped exactly like a pike; its jaws were from five to six feet long with a row of large teeth on each side of a yellowish colour. It kept itself sometimes for nearly a minute on the surface of the water. At 5 P. M. seeing
nothing.

nothing more of it, we embarked again, keeping close in shore, and at 7 P. M. put in for the night at the fishing hut at Echaffaud du Basque. Two men, named Baptiste Simard and Coton Felion, who were on their way to Malbay, hunting for seals, put in at the same time as we did. Thermometer, 71. 77. and 69 °.

Monday, 27th—This morning we went to the entrance of Riviere aux Canards, and putting the canoe and baggage in safety, I sent my two men with instructions to visit Pointe aux Bouleaux, whilst I followed the Riviere aux Canards, all the way up the hills. This River is larger than it appears at its entrance, and the hills are not so steep as they seem. I ascended the top of the highest, where I had a view of Pointe aux Bouleaux, and the interior parts. At different places between the hills I could see the waters of the Saguenay. There appears to be a level part or valley that runs in behind l'Anse St. Etienne, between the hills. I descended from the high land about the middle of Pointe aux Bouleaux, came straight to the St. Lawrence, and went along the bank to our camp, where I arrived at 5 P. M. My men arrived a little after me. This point is of a greater extent than it appears at first sight; and I take it to be at least a league in depth. Much however, need not be said about it as it is well known. The soil is good; the wood principally fir, spruce, cedar, birch, poplar, &c. I saw no pines on the point, but on the hills there is one here and there. The underwood is difficult to pass through, being much interwoven. This Point is a desirable place for a settlement, and has land enough for two hundred inhabitants. Thermometer, 69. 73. and 69 °.

Tuesday, 28th—It appears to rain last night, and continued to fall in showers all this day. At 10 A. M. we embarked, and proceeded straight to Tadoussac, where we were politely received by Mr. Moreau. Here we baked a batch of bread for our voyage up the Saguenay. The weather was warm. Thermometer, 66. 87. and 72 °.

Wednesday, 29th—At 8 A. M. we entered the Saguenay, and proceeded with the tide in our favor, up to the Bas Pierre. Here we had the misfortune to wet our gunpowder, and I sent my two men back to Tadoussac to buy some. They got a pound from Mr. Moreau, for which they paid 1s. 6d. It was six P. M. when they returned; we then proceeded to Anse St. Etienne, where we arrived

arrived after dark, and had much trouble in getting ashore, the water being low. Thermometer, 66. 87. and 72 °.

Thursday, 30th.—It began to rain before day light this morning, and continued till 10 A. M. when it cleared up; when after putting the canoe and baggage in safety, we proceeded inland. We had not gone far when, viewing the country from the top of a hill, I perceived it would be more advantageous to penetrate it from Riviere au Foin, opposite to Riviere Ste. Marguerite. We therefore returned to Anse St. Etienne, embarked, and went up to Riviere au Foin, where we arrived at 5 P. M. and encamped. From the little I saw at Anse St. Etienne, I found it was surrounded by high mountains, with some patches of level land between them of small extent. The soil is good, being a mixture of clay and sand. The trees are of a larger growth than at the Riviere aux Canards. They are mostly spruce, fir, birch, aspen, cedar, and red spruce. The few pine trees I saw were not fine ones. Brushwood such as is common to the banks of the Saguenay. The entrance of Anse St. Etienne is very difficult at low water. Thermometer, 62. 76. and 67 °.

Friday, 31st.—Early this morning we ascended the hills in the rear of Riviere au Foin, which are not so steep as they appear at a distance. There is a level tract behind the hills diversified by some eminences, one of which I ascended, and could see the hills of Riviere aux Canards. This level tract extends to the upper part of the Little Saguenay in a zig-zag form. The timber is the same as that described yesterday; and brushwood also. The soil I examined was a stiff greyish clay, intermixed with stones in some places. If Pointe aux Bouleaux is settled, I have no doubt these interior parts will make a great addition to it in course of time, and the settlements may even reach beyond the Little Saguenay, in a winding direction. The climate appears to be favourable; the few berries I saw were all ripe, and even the hazel nuts far advanced to maturity. We returned to our canoe, by a winding route between the hills. We arrived at 7 P. M. at our camp, not to rest, but to be tormented by the mosquitoes. Thermometer, 63. 71. and 58 °.

Saturday, August 1st.—Started at 11 A. M. from Riviere au Foin, and went up with the tide to the Little Saguenay, a distance of two leagues. Here again I ascended the hills to view the country

country behind them; and finding that I could see nothing more of the interior, than I had seen at Rivier au Foin, I returned to our camp which was in a fishing hut, at the mouth of the River. The hills here are high and steep. The weather was cool to day. Thermometer, 40. 86. and 58 °.

Sunday, 2nd.—Embarked before day-light, to go up with the tide to Anse St. Jean, where we arrived at A. M. and ascended the River about half a league, when it becoming too shallow to proceed higher up in the canoe, we put on shore, and placing the canoe and baggage in security, we took our provisions and other necessaries to proceed on foot. We began our march at 8 A. M. along the River for a short distance, after which we ascended the hills following a Rivulet that runs into Riviere St. Jean. The ascent is not very long nor steep. At two P. M. we came to the banks of the Little Saguenay, which we followed for a short distance. Perceiving a high mountain to our right, we ascended it, and I had a view from its summit, of the country all around. There seemed to be some level spots in every direction, which appear to go in a zig-zag direction, downwards in the rear of the Saguenay. I espied two small lakes at some distance, and directed my course towards them. At 6 P. M. we reached the first of them, and encamped on its shore for the night. The country we have passed through from Anse St. Jean, at least the greatest part of it, might be made habitable. It is well stocked with all kinds of timber, except pine, of which there is none in the interior. Maple is rare, but ash, birch, cedar, aspen, fir, and all kinds of spruce grow plentifully. The soil is a stiff greyish clay, stony in many places. Swamps I saw none, excepting round this lake. Few wild berries were seen. Thermometer, 44. 88. and 79 °.

Monday, 3rd.—Early this morning, we proceeded in a southerly direction. At noon we reached the same little lake, where we took our breakfast on the 16th of July. I have now ascertained what I was desirous of, namely, the practicability of a road from Anse St. Jean to Malbay. It is a good winter road, but as for a summer road, the distance is too great, and the expenses would be too much. Before we arrived here, we crossed four little streams, which I think form the Little Saguenay River. The farther we got in the interior, the poorer the country looks. Since we left our encampment, we have seen no other wood than spruce and fir, with here and there a small birch. The soil is a light black sandy

sandy mould. After taking a dinner, we steered our course to the N.W. towards Riviere St. Jean. At 5 P. M. we crossed that River, and ascended the hills on the other side, where we encamped for the night, hungry and fatigued. The country appears very mountainous to the north of Riviere St. Jean, and has formerly been all overrun by fire. The country we have travelled over to day, is not so well stocked with timber as yesterday, and much more burnt down, nor does the soil appear so good, and is much more stony. Thermometer, 62. 85. and 72 °.

Tuesday, 4th.—At 6 A. M. started again, on our way towards the Little Saguenay, the country being too mountainous to the North of Riviere St. Jean, and towards La Trinité. We struck upon a level tract of land, winding between hills and mountains, and at 6 P. M. we encamped by the side of a little creek, which we had passed the day we left Anse St. Jean. The tract we came through to day is in general good soil; the trees, underwood, and grass are all in a flourishing state, where it is not burnt. Maple and ash I saw little of; the wood the most common is, fir, spruce, cedar, and birch. Weather very warm. Thermometer, 65. 87. and 76 °. Mosquitoes and sandflies in innumerable swarms, and we must either endure their stings, or choke ourselves with smoke.

Wednesday, 5th.—Proceeded this morning straight to our canoe and baggage at Riviere St. Jean, where we arrived at 11 A. M. found all safe, breakfasted, and at 1 P. M. embarked and went up to La Trinité, where we put up in the old fishing hut. I took one of the men with me to go up the River, which is very shallow. Both this River, and the Riviere St. Jean, run to the westward. About a league up the River, I ascended a mountain, where I could see all around in every direction: I could perceive nothing but rocky hills and mountains, as far as the eye could reach. I returned by the same road I came, along the River. There there are a good many ash and maple trees, and a few pines, but the chief growth of wood is cedar, spruce, fir, and birch. All the trees are of a good size, and the soil along the River is good. There is land enough for two or three farms. Thermometer, 60. 89. and 73 °. Mosquitoes again in swarms.

Thursday, 6th.—The mosquitoes made us set off early. Embarking, we proceeded up to Ha-Ha-Bay, where we arrived at

10 A. M. We put ashore at Portage de l'Anguille, which is six leagues above La Trinité. We took our breakfast, and putting the canoe and baggage *en cache*, we entered the bush once more, (and for the last time). We went up the hills by a gentle ascent, about a league from the Bay, where we came to a burnt field of some extent every way. We crossed two small streams that run into Rivière de l'Anguille, if I may call it a River, for it is small itself; and at 6 P. M. we encamped in a fine tuft of green wood, by the side of a Rivulet of excellent water. From Ha-Ha-Bay to this, the soil is in general a good greyish clay, in some places intermixed with stones. The timber is of a pretty large size, and of the sorts common on the Saguenay, namely, cedar, spruce, fir, birch, aspen and poplar. The under brushwood is of all descriptions, and in many places difficult to pass through. Weather excessively warm. Thermometer, 64. 89. and 86°.

Friday, 7th.—Started a little after 6 A. M. and steered our course in a S. S. W. direction, between two chains of mountains, one to the S. and S. E. of us, and the other to the W. and N. W. The country in general is burnt, much encumbered with fallen trees, and overgrown with young birch, aspen, fir, and spruce. The soil is of different qualities, but in general consists of a poor reddish clay very stony. In the few spots where the fire has not passed, the timber looks well, and is of a good size; white birch, fir and spruce, are the most common, intermixed with a few cedars. I saw neither maple nor ash to day. We crossed several rivulets, but met with no lakes. Towards evening I ascended a high mountain, and had a view of the country round, and could see the mountains to the north of the Saguenay. From this to La Trinité it appears to be one continued range of high mountains. It is amongst these mountains I conceive the River La Trinité and St. Jean take their rise from several small lakes, which I could discover among the hills. This chain appears to run quite across Malbay River, and to reach to, or be the same, as the range that passes between St. Paul's Bay, and the head of Ste. Anne's River; and the chain of mountains to the W. N. W. of this seems to be the same that runs to the west of Ste. Anne's River. It must be in this chain that Malbay River takes its rise. I have been informed by an Abenakis Indian that Malbay River, and La Belle Riviere, which empties itself into Lake St. John, take their rise not above a day's journey from each other. Descending the mountains we encamped

encamped at the foot of it. Thermometer, 65. 87. and 78 °. We had some thunder and lightning to day, but no rain.

Saturday, 8th.—After passing a restless night, by the smoke and mosquitoes, we were on our way at an early hour this morning. Our course lay in a northerly direction. Leaving the mountains to the west of us we fell upon a River which I take to be the Vipouscoire Sipay, or Riviere Brulé, which runs into Ha-Ha-Bay. We followed it a short distance, and finding the hills getting too steep, we struck off to the east for Portage de l'Anguille, through burnt wood all along, and a little, before 6 P. M. encamped by the side of a small brook, not to rest, but to be tormented by the mosquitoes. The soil begins to have a better appearance. I can say little of the timber I have seen to day, as I saw but very little green wood. Some of the trunks of the half burned pines were very large. It is well known that when a fire has passed over any part of a country, the same sorts of timber that were burned down never grow up there again. There appear to be some high hills between us and the Bay. Thermometer, 68. 90. and 84 °.

Sunday, 9th.—We had little or no rest last night, from the rain and the mosquitoes. Although it rained hard, we left our encampment at a little after 6 A. M. and proceeded straight to Portage de l'Anguille, where we arrived at 5 P. M. wet, fatigued, and hungry, having had nothing to eat all day. We however, having made a good cabin, with a canvas tent and oil cloth, and a good fire within, we soon found ourselves comfortable, and I gave my men a bottle of spirits with their supper, which made them forget their fatigues. The soil during this day's walk was good, and the timber, where it is not burned down, large enough. This part of the country is diversified by hills and dales, and the hills are not too steep to be cultivable; near the Bay they are the steepest and highest. The distance from Ha-Ha-Bay, to Malbay River, I take to be about fifteen leagues in a direct line. I reckon that we have travelled, since leaving Portage de l'Anguille, between thirty six and forty leagues, in a kind of round. Thermometer this day, 66. 71. and 64 °.

Monday, 10th.—This morning, after drying our clothes, blankets, &c., we embarked in our canoe to return to Quebec. Although the sky had a very threatening aspect in the north west, we went down the Saguenay with the tide, in a fine calm, till we
came

came to the Tableau, when it began to rain, and to blow a hurricane, so much so that it was with the greatest trouble and danger we got ashore at the Little Point below the Tableau. We had not much rain, but the storm continued to blow so violently that we were wind bound here for the remainder of the day. Thermometer, 63. 68. and 54 °.

Tuesday, 11th.—This morning the wind blew too hard for us to proceed; but it slackened at 8 P. M. and we embarked immediately, intending to proceed on all night. At 11 P. M. however, we were forced to put ashore again; the wind becoming again very violent, and it raining very hard. Thermometer, 56. 60. and 65 °. And at 11 P. M. it stopt at 46 °.

Wednesday, 12th.—At 11 A. M. the weather became fine and calm, and we embarked and proceeded down to Tadoussac, where we arrived at 5 P. M. Here we found Messrs. Lesperance and Comeau, who were on their way up to Quebec. Thermometer, 54. 72. and 64 °.

Thursday, 13th.—At 10 A. M. we embarked with the two gentlemen just mentioned, in a boat which they took to go to Malbay. I left my canoe at Tadoussac, as it was almost entirely worn out. When we came to the Batture aux Alouettes, we had to wait for the rising of the tide to pass over it. We came to an anchor below Baye des Roches. We had a strong N. W. wind, with some heavy showers of rain during the night. Thermometer, 58. 69. and 41 °.

Friday, 14th.—This day we reached Port au Saumon; and in spite of wind and weather, passed the night again on the water. Thermometer, 39. 54. and 43 °.

Saturday, 15th.—Early this morning we arrived at Malbay. I put up again at my old lodging with my men, &c. Thermometer, 58. 76. and 67 °.

Sunday, 16th.—There being no schooner here I hired a boat to take me up to Quebec. The weather was clear, calm, and warm. Thermometer, 63. 81. and 73 °.

Monday,

Monday, 17th.—At 1 P. M. I embarked with E. Verreaux to proceed to Quebec with the rising tide. We reached Isle aux Coudres at 7 P. M. and dropped anchor to wait for the tide. Thermometer, 58. 90. and 69 °.

Tuesday, 18th.—Weighed anchor at 2 A. M. with a light breeze from the N. E. and arrived at Quebec at 3 P. M. where I paid off my two voyageurs.

[B.]

EXTRACTS from the Journal of the Exploration of the Country lying to north west of the Seigniories on the banks of the St. Lawrence, from the south western line of the Seigniorie of St. Gabriel, to the north eastern line of the Seigniorie of Batiscan. Begun on the second of August, and continued until the seventeenth of September, in the year 1829 :—By Jean Proulx, sworn Surveyor.

I began the said exploration on the north west side of the River Jacques Cartier, and about two leagues to the south east of the south western line of the said Seigniorie of St. Gabriel. At this point the banks of the River are very high, especially on the north western side; they consist however of land susceptible of cultivation, and of tolerable quality. The principal timber is maple, birch, beech, bass-wood, spruce and fir. After having ascended the bank of the River I found the ground more level, for the distance of a quarter of a mile. Beyond that distance the surface becomes uneven, there is less hardwood and the land is of inferior quality to that last mentioned. About two leagues from the said River Jacques Cartier lies Lake St. Michel, which is about a mile long, and two thirds of a mile wide; there are some small rocks in its neighbourhood, and the timber consists for the most part of fir, spruce and white birch. About half a mile from the said Lake, the timber is mixed and the land tolerably good, although there are a few scattered rocks here and there. About two miles from the said Lake St. Michel, lies Lake Tataray, which is about two miles long, and half a mile wide, and abounds in excellent fish. The Riviere aux Pins is chiefly supplied with water from this Lake, which is surrounded by rocks of middling height, except at its north western extremity, where the banks are less steep, and the rocks disappear. Leaving this Lake, I found in the distance of a quarter of a mile four other small ones, which render the face of the country uneven; the

the land is however susceptible of cultivation and tolerably good; the principal timber is spruce, fir, white birch and alder. The land continues the same as far as a large brook running towards the west, and very rapid. The distance between the said brook and the last Lakes is one mile and three quarters. Between this brook and the River Touridlez there is a high mountain, the summit of which is covered with rocks of different heights and sizes; but the slope of which consists on all sides of land susceptible of cultivation, the timber consists of black and white birch, spruce and fir.

The River Touridlez is one of the principal branches of the River Ste. Anne; it runs towards the north west over a gravelly bed, and is very rapid. The valley along which it winds is about an arpent and a half in width; but as the River approaches the Ste. Anne, the banks become lower, and leave a more ample passage, so that the valley extends to the width of seven or eight arpents, and consists of very good land fit for cultivation. Leaving the said River, the land rises fast, and continues so to rise in steps for about a mile; throughout this distance the land is susceptible of cultivation, and is covered with mixed hardwood of all kinds. At the end of the said distance there is a chain of rocks extending about a mile and a half from the south east towards the north west, and interspersed with several small Lakes of considerable depth, and the waters of which flow into the River Ste. Anne. Leaving the last of the said Lakes, I had to descend a very high mountain which extends about a mile, in several places the descent is extremely abrupt and steep. About half way down this mountain the land becomes fit for cultivation, and is tolerably good. At the foot of this mountain runs the River Ste. Anne, which is there about an arpent and a third in width, and flows with great rapidity over a bed of stones: It winds along a very narrow valley, bounded on one side by the Galayarle mountain, which is nothing more than a barren rock of considerable height. This said mountain is crossed by a branch of the River, which rushes with extraordinary rapidity from the top to the bottom of the rock, and loses itself in the River Ste. Anne, about a quarter of a mile to the south west. About a mile further on, and on the top of the said mountain, I found three small Lakes surrounded by high rocks, and the waters of which run towards the south. From the River Ste. Anne as far as the said Lakes, the face of the ground is very uneven, and is covered with rocks; the timber consists of fir, spruce and white birch. From the said Lakes to the third River Ste. Anne, the distance is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and throughout this distance the surface of the ground is principally covered with rocks of different sizes and heights, and lying in different directions; and between which there are patches of land fit for cultivation, but of very small extent, and of very middling quality, except that near the River last named,
there

there is, below the great bank on the south east side, a great deal of land fit for cultivation between the small rocks, lying on the said bank. The said third River Ste. Anne is one arpent in width, and runs with great rapidity towards the south over a bed of large stones. The valley along which it winds is very narrow, and is bounded on the north western side by a high mountain, the summit of which is a rock, on the top of which there is a small Lake, the waters of which run towards the south. A few paces to the north west of this rock the ground begins to fall with a very steep descent; and about one mile from the said third River, I found a branch of it about eighty feet wide running over a bed of large stones and rock, between two rocks of great height, particularly that on the north western side which is very high and steep.

Leaving the said Branch I continued my course about five miles and a half towards the north west, throughout which distance I found nothing but rocks, intersected by small Lakes and Brooks. The timber on the said rocks consists of spruce, fir, white birch, &c. of very small size.

At the end of the said five miles and a half, I began to cross towards the south west, and continued the same course about six miles. Throughout this distance I found the same chain of rocks. About half way I found a high mountain, which apparently extends from north to south; in descending on the west side I found several small Lakes, and at the end of the said six miles I came to a branch of the River Batiscau called Riviere Pierre, sixty feet in width and running with great rapidity towards the west, over a bed of large stones. I then proceeded in a direction nearly south east, for the purpose of coming out at Fossambault. Leaving the last mentioned River the ground rises very fast, and after proceeding about three quarters of a mile I found two small lakes, which run into the said Riviere Pierre, and are surrounded by high rocks; and about three miles from the said Riviere Pierre, I found a high mountain, the direction of which appears to be from the north east towards the south west, and which separates the waters of the River Batiscau from those of the Ste. Anne. After having descended the said mountain, I found two small lakes surrounded by high rocks; but at the distance of about two miles from the said Lakes the mountains become less abrupt, and begin to descend gradually, sloping towards the east. The rocks disappear, and the land is fit for cultivation. The timber consists chiefly of maple, black birch, beech, spruce and fir. The land continues the same as far as the third River Ste. Anne, which runs towards the south, with some degree of rapidity, over a bed of gravel. The valley along which it winds is about two or three arpents wide, and the land consists of good quality. The timber is principally ash, elm, poplar, and alder. The great bank on the south eastern side is very high, but rises regularly,
and

and gradually The surface of the ground then becomes irregular, but the land is of good quality. The timber fit for service, consists of maple, beech, black birch, spruce and fir. The land continues the same as far as the River Ste. Anne, which runs with some degree of rapidity over a bed of gravel. There are in the River several Islands of a certain extent, and the land is of a good quality. The valley along which the River winds, is about four or five arpents in width; at this distance a great bank on the south eastern side of the River Ste. Anne commences; this bank is not very high, and the land continues very good, to the distance of about two miles from the said River, after which there are several small Lakes, near which there are some small rocks, between which there are many patches of land fit for cultivation and of tolerable quality. Between these Lakes, and Lake St. Joseph, the ground rises regularly and the land is very good. The timber fit for service consists of maple, black birch, beech &c. I then descended to the Mill at Fossambault, and began to direct my course towards the north west near the Seigniorial line between Fossambault and Bourg Louis. Leaving the last settlements of the said Seignioriy of Fossambault, the ground is almost level as far as Lake Sergent, except that along the sides of the different Rivulets which wind through the said tract of country, there are small hollows in which the principal timber is cedar, spruce, fir, ash, and alder; on the level ground the timber is black birch, beech, maple, spruce and fir. The land is of good quality. The said Lake Sergent is bordered by low land, except on the north western side, where the land rises gradually for about a mile. It then falls towards the north west, and there is a small rock to be descended, at the foot of which is a large brook running towards the south west. After ascending the north western bank of this Brook the ground is almost level as far as the outlet of the Lake of the Seven Islands, which is the source of the principal branch of the River Portneuf. The said bank is rather high. Between the said Lake Sergent and the outlet of the Lake of the Seven Islands the land is of good quality. The timber on the higher grounds consists chiefly of maple, beech, black birch, spruce and fir. On the lower ground, spruce, cedar, ash, fir, and alder. Leaving the said Rivulet or River Portneuf the ground rises gradually for about three quarters of a mile; it then begins to fall towards the River Ste. Anne, and at a short distance there is a swamp to be crossed of about half a mile wide; the land is there level and of bad quality. Passing this swamp, the land again becomes good and continues so as far as the River Ste. Anne, falling gradually. The principal timber between the River Portneuf and the Ste. Anne is black birch, spruce, fir, and alder. The distance is about two miles. The said River Ste. Anne runs here over a bed of gravel, and is by no means rapid. There are several Islands in it of considerable extent, and consisting of very good land. The valley along which it winds is about five arpents wide; the main banks are by no means high, but that on the north western side is rather

rather more so than the other. After ascending this bank the ground is level as far as the third River, where there is a hill of middling height to be descended, at the foot of which there is a very fine valley between the hill at the said third River, which runs with but little rapidity over a bed of gravel, and in which there are several Islands of considerable extent and consisting of very good land. The distance below the two last mentioned Rivers is about two miles; the land is of good quality, and the timber fit for service consists of maple, black birch, beech, spruce and fir.

The bank on the north western side of the valley of the said third River, is rather high, and abrupt; but after it is passed, the ground is level for about a mile. It then begins to fall towards the north west, for about a mile, at the end of which distance I found a little River forty feet wide, running with great rapidity towards the east over a bed of large stones.

The land between the two last mentioned Rivers is of good quality. The timber on it consists of maple, black birch, beech, &c. On the north western side of the said little River there is a steep hill which must be ascended, and immediately afterwards descended. After proceeding about half a mile from the last mentioned little River, I came to it again, and found it running from the northward; at this place it runs close to a high mountain on its western bank. I ascended this mountain obliquely; its summit is formed of a high rock. The lands on the River Ste. Anne which are fit for cultivation do not extend beyond this point; and after having descended one part of the said rock, I came to another which I had to ascend, and in fine at the distance of about four miles and a half from the last mentioned little River, I began to find small Lakes, and in the distance of about three and half miles I found five, all surrounded and separated from each other by barren rocks extremely high and abrupt. The waters of these Lakes run off towards the south west. On the north western side of the last, there is a high mountain covered with small rocks, which make its surface uneven. This mountain is about a mile and a half across, and at its north western foot is the River Ferrè, which is sixty feet wide and runs towards the south west with great rapidity over a bed of rock; it falls into Long Lake.

On the bank of the said River on the north side, there is a high rock, the summit of which is tolerably flat for about half a mile. I had then to ascend a high chain of rocks, the summit of which is very uneven; and about two miles from the said River Ferrè, the land falls with a very steep descent for about a mile, and at the foot of the descent is the River Ces Aunaies, thirty feet wide, running very sluggishly over a bed of sand and towards the west. This River is supplied from a small Lake at

a small distance to the eastward of this point ; it falls into another which lies about the same distance to the westward, and afterwards joins the Batiscan.

The mountain which separates this little River from the River Ferré, forms the height of land between the Ste. Anne and the Batiscan. On the slope of this mountain on the north western side, about one half the land might be cultivated, and is tolerably good ; the timber in this part consists of maple, black birch, spruce and fir. The said River des Aunaies winds along a little valley of very good land on which there is a great deal of alder. Leaving the said River, I came to a high mountain rising gradually, and the summit of which is level, and is about a mile across. The land then falls a little, but very gently ; and about a mile and a half further on, I passed a large brook running towards the west. On the last mentioned mountain about one third of the land between the small rocks scattered over its surface might be cultivated. The timber is maple, birch, black beech, spruce and fir. On the north western side of the said large brook, there is also a high mountain, on which there are a great many rocks, and the timber is of a bad quality. On the slope towards the north west, I passed between two small lakes which discharge their waters into the River des Aunaies. On the north western side of these lakes the land rises very gently, and continues to do so for about half a mile, after which it is level for about one third of a mile. It then falls rapidly towards the north, and at the foot of the descent is the River Pierre, which is also a branch of the Batiscan, and runs very sluggishly in a deep channel and over a bed of sand, through a fine valley of good land. At the place where I struck this River, there are three small lakes on it, which renders it wider at that point than it is throughout the rest of its course. On the last mentioned mountain, at least one half of the land might be cultivated, and the soil is good. The timber fit for service is maple, black birch, beech, spruce and fir ; and the distance from the River des Aunaies to the point at which I struck that last mentioned, is about 7 or 8 miles.

On the lower side of the last lake on the said River Pierre, is the opening through which issues the River Lincheque, which is eighty feet wide, and runs sluggishly over a bed of sand. Leaving the said River Pierre, the land rises gradually for about a mile ; it then falls towards the north west with a gentle descent, for about

two miles and a half, and at the foot of the descent is the River Batiscan, which is there about two arpents and a half wide, and runs slowly over a bed of gravel to the southward: it winds along a valley of two or three arpents in width. Almost all the land between the River Pierre and Batiscan might be cultivated, and the soil is of good quality. The timber is chiefly maple, black birch, beech, spruce and fir.

The temperature appears to be much higher on the Batiscan than on the Ste. Anne, for those kind of fruit which I found green when I crossed the Ste. Anne, were ripe when I arrived at the Batiscan, a circumstance which announces an earlier season by at least fifteen days; and this may be accounted for by the fact that the Batiscan runs in a much deeper channel than the Ste. Anne.

The valley on the north western side of the River Batiscan is bounded by rocks of moderate elevation. The land then rises gradually, and the soil is susceptible of cultivation and of tolerable quality, for about two miles and a half, after which there are many high mountains covered with rocks. In this chain of mountains I found three small lakes, surrounded by very abrupt rocks. On the north western side of these lakes is a high mountain which I ascended, and immediately afterwards descended on the opposite side, where the descent is very steep. At the foot of this mountain is the River Propre, ninety feet wide, running with great rapidity over a bed of large rocks: it winds along between two high mountains. The distance between this River and the Batiscan is about six miles; and it is only for about three miles, reckoning from the River Batiscan, that the land is susceptible of cultivation. In the course of the other three miles, there are also some spots which might be cultivated, but they are of a very small extent.

Leaving the said River Propre, I proceeded southward, and at the distance of about three miles I came to a small lake, and about a mile further to the southward, I passed between two other small ones. The waters from these three lakes run to the westward. The lakes are surrounded by high mountains, almost entirely covered with rocks. Between the said River Propre and these Lakes, there is but very little land fit for cultivation among the rocks which cover the surface of the said tract. There is some timber fit for service on it, and of tolerably good quality, particularly

larly on the lower side of the said rocks. The land continues the same as far as another small lake which lies about four miles from the two last mentioned, and from which the water runs to the westward. I then changed my course so as to proceed in a direction towards Long Lake which lies south east or nearly so ; and leaving the lake last mentioned, I ascended a high mountain, on which there are some small rocks here and there as far as the summit ; after passing which the lands begins to fall towards the River Batiscan, and so continues to become gradually lower as far as the valley of the said River. Throughout the whole of this large tract of sloping ground, the land is fit for cultivation, and of very fair quality. The timber fit for service on the sloping parts is maple, black birch, beech, spruce and fir ; and on the level ground, ash, aspen, spruce, fir and alder. Several small streams runs through the said tract. The valley along which the River Batiscan here winds, is about seven or eight arpents wide, and the land is of the best quality. The timber is ash, aspen, poplar, elm, and alder. There are also a few scattered pines. The banks of this River, which are low, are composed of clay, with the exception of a bed of fine sand from fifteen to eighteen inches deep, which lies on the said clay. The said River is very deep, and the current is extremely slow at this point. The ground on the south eastern side rises gradually for about three miles, and the soil is of good quality. The timber is nearly the same as on the north western side of the said River. At the end of the said distance of three miles, there is a high mountain, which however rises very regularly. Its summit is covered with small rocks which renders the ground almost insusceptible of cultivation. In descending the southwestern side of the said mountain, I passed between two small lakes bordered by rocks of middling height, extending about a mile. I then found myself on the western slope of a high mountain, consisting of land susceptible of cultivation, except about the summit, where there are scattered rocks which render the surface uneven. This mountain reaches as far as Long Lake, which is about five miles in length, and about one in width at the widest part : it abounds in excellent fish, and is surrounded by very high land, which however rises gradually, and is fit for cultivation and of very fair quality. The timber is chiefly maple, black birch, beech, spruce and fir.

This Lake is the principal source of the Black River which is two arpents wide, and runs with some rapidity over a bed of
stone

stone and gravel, until it falls into the Ste. Anne, in the Seigniory of Grondines. This little River winds along a small valley two or three arpents wide, and bounded on each side by high banks, which however rises gradually and consist of land fit for cultivation and of very fair quality. The timber fit for service on the higher ground, consists of maple, birch, beech, spruce and fir; and on the low ground of ash, aspen, poplar, spruce, fir and alder.

I went down along the West Bank of the Black River, as far as the first settlements on the River Ste. Anne, in the said Seigniory of Grondines, and from thence I proceeded to the last settlements on the River Batiscan and in the Seigniory of Ste. Anne where I provided myself with a Canoe. I then ascended the said River Batiscan as far as the Post of the Great Rapids, a distance of seventy five miles from the River St. Lawrence.

That part of the said River within the Seigniories of Ste. Anne and Grondines is almost straight. There are five Falls upon it, in the intervals between which the current is very gentle, and the River is generally deep. Its course is from North to South. Its banks are low except near the Falls, where they are rather higher. Having reached a point about three miles and a half above the said Seigniory of Grondines, I explored the country on the North West side of the said River to the distance of seven or eight miles back. Leaving the said River, there is a valley of five or six arpents in width. The land then rises gradually for about two miles and a half, after which it rises suddenly at intervals, and these rises are in some places steep and some of them abrupt, particularly about the end of the said distance of seven or eight miles. The land is however susceptible of cultivation throughout the whole of this distance, and is of very fair quality. The timber fit for service consists chiefly of maple, black birch, beech, ash, elm, spruce, fir, &c. After this I continued my route up the said River. From the Seigniory of Grondines as far as the mouth of the River des Aunaies, its course is generally towards the North East; it has many windings, and flows through a valley of eight or nine arpents in width. Its banks, which are low, are composed of clay, covered with a layer of fine sand. It runs over a bed of mud and sand, and its current is very gentle between the several Falls which lie in this neighbourhood. Above the mouth of the said River des Aunaies, the River turns to the Northward, and its course is generally

nerally more direct. The inner banks are the same as before, and the valley also continues of the same width as far as the mouth of the River Propre, where the outer banks begin to approach each other, and the inner banks are sandy with large stones here and there: the River also becomes more rapid. At the mouth of the River Pierre the inner banks become rather higher, and the valley between the outer banks is only about two or three arpents wide. In the outer banks at this place there are some rocks here and there, which are higher and more abrupt. At the foot of the said Great Rapids, the outer banks reach close to the edge of the River, and are interspersed with many high and very abrupt rocks. The River runs with great rapidity over a bed of large stones. At this point I discontinued my ascent, and explored the Country on each side of the River, proceeding as nearly as possible in a direction at right angles to its course, I began to ascend its Eastern bank. From the River side to the distance of about two miles, I found a great many rocks of a certain height, on which there is nothing but small fir and spruce. The ground then passes into a high mountain rising suddenly at intervals, and falling in the same manner, where it is intersected by small streams; at the distance of about six miles is the summit of the mountain, which lies on the North Western bank of the River Lincheque, and which is abrupt and of considerable height. On the last mentioned mountains there are some patches of land fit for cultivation between the small rocks which cover the surface of the said mountains, on which there are a great number of loose stones. The timber fit for service is chiefly black and white birch, spruce and fir. Among the rocks in the neighbourhood of the River Batiscan, there are also some small patches of good land; but they are of too small extent ever to engage the attention of the Agriculturist. I now found that I had reached the termination of the lands fit for cultivation in the neighbourhood of the said River. I then passed over to the Western bank. Leaving the River, there are several rocks to be ascended, some of which are very abrupt. At the distance of about two miles those rocks become higher, and at the distance of two miles and a half, I passed the Southern end of a small Lake surrounded on all sides by very high and abrupt rocks. About a mile from the last mentioned Lake, I found another rather smaller, which is also surrounded by high rocks. About two thirds of a mile from this last Lake, the land begins to fall very suddenly, and continues to do so for about half a mile, and at the foot of the descent is the River du Portage, ninety feet wide, running with great rapidity to the

Southward over a bed of large stones and rocks. The distance between the two Rivers is about six miles, and it is only for the first two miles after leaving the Batiscan, that there are found some spots of land fit for cultivation, between the rocks which cover five sixths of the surface of the ground; the timber on the land susceptible for cultivation is white birch, black birch, fir, spruce, &c.; and on the rocks between the said two Rivers, the timber is of very bad quality and of a very stunted growth. Leaving the said River du Portage, there is a very high mountain rising at intervals for the distance of about two miles, and covered with rocks. At the end of the said distance, I found a chain of rocks of various height and size, lying in different directions one from the other, and between which there are many Lakes. I continued my course among the said rocks to the distance of about eight miles to the North West of the said River du Portage, where I struck Lake Claire which is about two miles long, and the water of which appears to me to flow towards the St. Maurice. Between the River du Portage and the Lake Claire, I found no land fit for cultivation; and the timber on the rocks is of very bad quality and of a very stunted growth. I then perceived that I had reached the termination of the land on the River Batiscan which is fit for cultivation, and I therefore discontinued the exploration, and returned without delay to Quebec.

Superficial extent of the land fit for cultivation mentioned in the extract, and marked out on the Plan which accompanies it :—

The tract of land which is bounded on the South East by the Seigniories of Jacques Cartier, Bourg Louis, Fossambault and others; on the South West by Perthuis; on the North West by a high chain of rocks, and on the North East by St. Gabriel, contains eighty nine thousand six hundred acres; but of this tract about one third is covered with small rocks; there remains therefore, after this deduction, fifty nine thousand eight hundred and sixty seven acres, forming 598 lots of one hundred acres each, and leaving a small remainder.

The tract of land which is bounded on the North East by the Seigniorship of Perthuis; on the South East by Deschambault; La Chevrière and La Tesserie; on the South West by Les Grondines, and on the North West by the line bounding the lands fit for cultivation, contains 140,800 acres; but of this tract about one fourth is
unfit

unfit for cultivation by reason of the small rocks scattered here and there over its surface, there remains therefore, after this deduction, 105,600 acres, forming 1056 lots of one hundred acres each.

The tract of land bounded on the South West by the Seigniorship of Perthuis; on the North West and North East by the line bounding the lands fit for cultivation, and on the South East by the chain of rocks, contains 115,200 acres; but about one half the surface of this tract is covered with small rocks, and there remains therefore only 57,600 acres clear, forming 576 lots of one hundred acres each.

The total number of lots is 2,229, which is sufficient to form four good Parishes.

Given under my Seal at Ste. Marie Nouvelle Beauce, the 26th day of the month of December, 1829.

J. P. PROULX,
Sworn Surveyor.

C.

To Andrew Stuart and David Stuart, Esquires, Commissioners appointed by an Act of the Provincial Parliament of Lower Canada, for Exploring certain Lands lying between Lake St. Charles and the River Chicoutimic.

Gentlemen,

Pursuant to Instructions, furnished to us by you, dated the 22nd of June 1829, and empowering us to carry into effect an exploring survey of investigation of the Townships of Stoneham and Tewkesbury, we the undersigned on that day left Quebec, and proceeding to the Township of Stoneham, there met, as had been previously arranged, Nicholas Vincent, Grand Chief of the Lorette Hurons, and four Indians, who were to serve as Guides & Labourers through the excursion.

Our provisions consisting of the usual articles allowed on such occasions were laid in for twenty one days, with a small surplus of flour; our personal

personal baggage was made as light as possible by the omission of all superfluties, and we also furnished ourselves with a copy of the late Jeremiah McCarthy's Diagram of the said Townships as a necessary Document of reference.

During the twenty third we were detained by heavy rains at Lot No. 5, called Craig's Clearing, in the Second Range of the Township; but on the following day we commenced our route into the woods. Our object was to penetrate with the least possible delay, through the heart of Stoneham as far as its North Western extremity, and on our arrival there to be guided by circumstances as to our after progress. Traversing a Lake marked in McCarthy's Map, Lake Huron, but which ought to be written Lac à Diamant, and which in the Huron Language is called "Tiora Dathek," signifying "the Bright Rock," (from a white Rock on the brow of a Mountain). We passed over the 3d and 4th Ranges of the Township along an Indian Path (seen Plan,) until we arrived at three small Lakes, (the "*Trois Petits Lacs*" of McCarthy, and called in Huron "Atochiatenke" (*chez le cheval*), thence continuing along the Indian track we reached the River Jacques Cartier ("Lahdaweoolé," coming from afar), and there encamped about Lot No. 9, in the tenth Range. At Lake Tiora Dathek the Land is good, but, as in most parts we have visited, rather stony, (this indeed is very generally the case in the District of Quebec).

If continues very fine to the N. W. extremity of the three little Lakes, particularly to the eastward of the Indian Path, as we were informed by the Grand Chief. Westward to the line of the Township from the said Lakes, and extending as high as the River Jacques Cartier, it is mountainous and bad. On the good Land the Timber consists of black Birch, Maple and Fir, with here and there an Elm. Between the three Lakes and the Jacques Cartier we passed over a Mountain, the greatest part of which is unfit for immediate settlement, but the slope down to the River gradually assumes a better character, and the Land immediately bordering upon it extending Northward about two Miles and a half to a Fall of a River, is a rich tract of as fine Soil as perhaps could be found in Lower Canada, with the peculiar advantage in this hilly District of the practicability of an easy Road being formed to it from Craig's clearing, along, or very little deviating from, the Indian path which we followed. The Land on the River on both sides below the Indian path, suddenly becomes bad and so continues to the Town Line.*

Crossing

* See the Diagram accompanying this Report, on which the Lands which we esteemed good from our inspection, or from what we consid-

Crossing the River Jacques Cartier, by means of a raft, on the 26th, we pursued a general Northerly course, over a Mountain, and on the evening arrived at Lake St. Thomas, where we encamped. This Lake communicates with two others bearing N. N. West from its upper extremity, named Lakes St. Vincent and St. Guillaume. Between Lakes St. Thomas and St. Vincent the Communication is very similar to that connecting the Upper and Lower Lake St. Charles, but between Lakes St. Vincent and St. Guillaume, there is an interval through which flows a narrow Stream about a Mile in length. It may here be proper to remark that in McCarthy's Map, a River flowing from two Lakes, is made to enter between Lakes St. Thomas and St. Vincent; there is no such River; that there is no interval left between the two Upper, and a considerable one between the two Lower Lakes, which should be *vice versa*; and lastly that the River flowing through the three Lakes is made to fall into the Jacques Cartier, at least two Miles higher up that Stream than where the real junction takes place, but these are trifles compared with some errors and omissions of the Diagram which we shall have occasion to remark.

On the farther side of the Jacques Cartier, where we crossed it, there is a stripe of good Land extending to the base of the Mountain, and averaging perhaps a quarter of a Mile in depth from the River; this, like the fine tract on the opposite shore, extends up Stream to the Fall before mentioned, and below where the Indian path strikes it, it also reaches some way up; the slope of the Mountain cultivable though more stony. The declivity then suddenly steepening at about one third of its height, the Mountain becomes altogether rugged and rocky, and unsuitable to the purposes of Settlement. This description will equally apply to the farther side of the Mountain, which, as it slopes down towards Lake St. Thomas, gradually improves in character, forming a very fine tract of Land, which extends from the middle of Lake St. Thomas all along the South East Shores of the two other Lakes. And here it may be observed, that these Lakes absolutely swarm with Trout, a considerable auxiliary, we should consider, to the subsistence of the Settlers. Of the N. Western shores of these Lakes, less can be said: There is indeed all along the two upper, a slip of good Soil, but very narrow and backed by Cliffs nearly inaccessible. The side lines of the Lots also do not run along this narrow strip, but cut square through it, so that the portion belonging to each Farm would be trifling. The rocky Cliffs here would be likely to afford subject to the Geologist, their appearance being very peculiar. Their is a lane of white rock, probably five hundred feet in perpendicular

red correct information, are colored green; parts unfit for cultivation or for immediate Settlement are slightly shaded with Indian Ink; and indifferent parts are left white.

lar height, and sixty wide, sloping at an Angle of about forty five, for some distance from the top of the Cliff and less steeply to its base on Lake St. Vincent, so white that, at two Miles distance, and indeed much nearer, it has the appearance of pure snow, particularly the upper slope. We thought it necessary to climb and examine this singular object, and found the Rock a Granite, of which the ground basis is feld spar. It seems to have been the bed of a Cataract which some time poured over the edge of the Cliff, (similar to the Montmorenci,) and bleached the Rock to its present remarkable appearance. The Indian name for these three Lakes is "Aoutsiole," or, *ce qu'il se baste*. The formation of a Road from the Jacques Cartier to the Lakes would probably be a difficult work. The Indian path is however continued thus far, and here ends.

On the 30th of June, having completed our examination of the Lands adjoining the three Lakes, we commenced our journey towards the South East Branch of the River Ste. Anne. The Country here begins to deteriorate very much; the black Timber, Spruce, Larch and Balsam Firs prevail, and the hardy black Birch becomes more rare; the ascent is continued. In the evening encamped by a small Lake situate, to the best of our judgment, between the twelfth and thirteenth Ranges Lots 12. This Lake is situated on a Mountain, and discharges itself in a sudden Cascade of perhaps 60 feet down the slope. As we could learn no name for it, either French or Indian, we called it "Black Fly Lake" from the unusual numbers of that troublesome insect which tormented us. The Land hither from Lake St. Thomas though not absolutely bad is of very middling quality and very rugged.

On the first of July continued our Route, and in the evening arrived at a large Lake bordered by steep rocky picturesque Mountains on the West side. The ground we passed over was partly black swamp and partly hilly Country, generally of indifferent quality. Near the Grand Lake called in Huron "Onenwot" (*une roche plantée*), it assumes rather a better character, but no hard Timber is to be seen; some fine Larches fringe the borders of the Lake on the Eastern side, and if accessible by Roads, the Land might be turned to account, particularly by Canadians who do not object to black Timber so much as other Settlers. It is a singular fact that no fish are found in this large Lake, nor in any of the Lakes or Streams above which communicate with it. Its waters are discharged into the River Jacques Cartier, in the 7th Range near the Township line.

July

July 2nd.—Crossed by means of a Raft a considerable Stream which supplies Lake Onenwot; this is called in Huron “Kiooliyaintiaon (*elles sont tombées*), and although the largest River between the Ste. Anne and Jacques Cartier, and having its rise beyond the North West extremity of the Townships, and connected with seven or eight Lakes; is totally omitted by Mr. McCarthy, who could not, we think, have surveyed this part of the Township. Our direction now lay about N. W., and as we advanced, the Land by no means improved in quality, but continued black timbered and very strong, with a high mountainous Country right and left of us. On the following morning descending a Mountain and scaling round its base, we crossed a small Stream which falls just below into the Ste. Anne between Ranges 14 and 15, near the Township line, and called in Huron “Kialoskitora” (ascent River); and soon afterwards arrived at the first, and most considerable Branch of the River Ste. Anne, in the Indian language named “Atourile” (*Le Bourreau*), where we encamped. The quality of all the Lands between Lake Thomas and the River Ste. Anne may be classed as of a similar character, namely, not absolutely incapable of subsisting the Settler, but as holding out few inducements to him to locate himself there. The Land is never better than middling, frequently bad; the whole tract is mountainous or swampy and very stony, and presenting great difficulties in the way of access. We have no hesitation, however, in giving it as our opinion, that at a future period, when the Lands will have been taken up and cultivated as far as the three Lakes, enterprising individuals will be found to extend the Settlement quite as far as Ste. Anne’s River. The same character, from information of the Chief Indian, may be applied left and right of our line of Route, viz. to the Township Line and some way to the Eastward; of the latter our report will shortly make mention. The black Birch which we had lost from Black Fly Lake again appears close on the borders of the Ste. Anne.

Continuing our progress towards the end of Stoneham, we, on the 4th of July, forded the River Ste. Anne which is here about one hundred and fifty feet wide and very shallow, and having crossed over a low Mountain which stretches longitudinally with the River, came to a very fair tract of Land, which we followed in a S. W. by W. direction for about a Mile where it terminated in an alder Swamp. Here we found a long narrow Lake called

by

by the Indians "Showaska" (*un Pie*). Thence proceeding along a gap between two high rocky Mountains over a stony and miserable Country in a generally Northern course, and crossing some extensive windfalls, we arrived about noon at a second Lake called by the Indians "Thiyontaleniat" (*sur la Montagne haute*), which name is very appropriate, as it is the highest situation of water we have yet seen. A River falls from it into the farther Branch of the Ste. Anne. From this Lake ascending a little, we arrived at the highest part of a steep Mountain, from which we distinctly beheld the lofty summits of the high Lands beyond the Branch of the Ste. Anne, towards which we were journeying, blue and picturesque, and other Mountainous ranges right and left of our Path.

Descending Westerly a long and steep declivity, and traversing a Country difficult from Rocks and Windfalls, we at length reached what may be called the Frontier Bank of the River. Descending a succession of steep and even dangerous declivities by the only passable track, which occupied us at least an hour, we arrived about sunset at the water edge, and there encamped a little Westward of the township line, there being no access to the River in Stoneham, on account of the bare steep precipices of Granite which border all this part of the Stream. Immediately in front of us, on the other side of the River, which is here about sixty feet wide, is a Cliff of Granite three times as high and as steep as Cape Diamond, on the face of which scarcely ever the stunted Fir Trees can find place to rest themselves. The Indians call this Branch of the Ste. Anne "Telayer" (*les ailes marquées* from a foolish tradition of a Bird carrying off an Otter, and marking the snow with the tips of its wigs. There is a pretty fall of the River close by.

The whole Country in the Townships lying between the two branches of the Ste. Anne is one tract of high mountainous Land so totally unfitted for Settlement, that the very Indians cannot pursue their game through it, as we are informed, unless along the Gap through which we travelled.

This description, we have reason to believe not exaggerated, as we have had opportunities of seeing occasionally from eminences and woodfalls, the difficult nature of the surrounding tract; nothing but Mountains which here swell out to gigantic proportions.

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The soil itself too which we have passed over, is in general overlaid by a long green moss, covering large masses of granite, which never could be got rid of. A stripe of good Land borders the River, but too scanty for agricultural purposes. At this place it became necessary to arrange as to our future progress. The slightest consideration was sufficient to convince us that it would be an useless waste of time to cross the River to examine the corner of Stoneham, beyond it; and the Chief, seconded by his brother in law, both of whom well knew the country, assured us that if we attempted to reach the Town Line, we should have to make a great circuit beyond it to gain the only point of the River where it would be possible to recross the River, and that it was altogether questionable whether we could, even by so doing, surmount the difficulty on account of the precipices: that did we contrive to do so at the farther branch, the country lying between that and the nearer to the Eastward, was next to impassable, and that still greater impediments would be in the way of getting over the latter stream, whose banks higher up than were we had forded became tremendous precipices, far worse than any we had yet seen. This reasoning, with a consideration that our great object was to discover as much good Land during the time allotted for the investigation, rather than encounter difficulties merely for the sake of having it to say we had done so, made us resolve to return on our steps to the South West branch; and even had not this reflection influenced, an inspection of our provisions at once shewed the impossibility of our going further.— We therefore returned to the principal branch, and thence dispatched two of the Party back to Craig's clearing, for provisions deposited there, with directions to meet us at Lake St. Guillaume, on the Thursday after; and we immediately commenced our journey with the Chief and two others, towards that Lake, along a Tract widely diverging from the one by which we had gained the River, and lying in a direction nearly East North East.— Starting on the 7th of July, we at first proceeded about a mile up the River, hoping to find some good Land, as usual, lying along it; but we were disappointed, for after a short progress the Mountain comes suddenly down upon the River leaving no interval of flat Land, and the banks are broken into rugged steeps and gullies, covered with moss and great stones. Finding this the case, we determined to cut across the Mountain in the direction of Lake St. Guillaume, which having done, and descended a steep precipice on the other side, from the brow of which the Chief pointed out a Gap in the opposite range of Mountains through which we

should have to pass,—we encamped in a swampy bottom of excellent Land, but too confined, except as connected with our former route (see Plan,) to be regarded as of much importance. The River Kialoskatora, before mentioned, runs through this valley.—A violent thunder storm visited us this evening, with heavy rain.

On the 8th, detained all day by deluges of rain and more thunder; but on the 9th proceeded towards Lake St. Guillaume. On this and the following day we discovered the extraordinary errors and omissions of M'Carthy's Diagram. Though continually arriving at Lakes and Streams, and actually finding a Line, all which ought to have been Landmarks, so utterly false are these parts on paper, that we could not once make out our position. In our route we again crossed the Kiooliyatentiaon, which now swelled by the rains to a roaring torrent, falls into the grand Lake, and which is not remarked on the Map, though a Line actually crosses over it. On the 10th, arrived at Lake St. Guillaume, where we found our men lately arrived with provisions from Craig's clearing, and there we encamped. The whole country passed over between River Ste. Anne and Lake St. Guillaume, excepting the bottom lately mentioned, and some little improvement of soil and Timber towards the Lake, may be considered utterly unfit for settlement; not from any particular difficulties in regard to its mountainous character, though rugged enough, but from its absolute badness and sterility. Rock and Sand are its uninterrupted features, not a patch of tolerable ground did we observe, nor any other trees than miserable Spruces, Balsams, White Birch, and occasionally Larches. The whole tract too, is embarrassed by extensive wind-falls, which must here be frequent and very violent, whole sides of the hills having been left bare. It is indeed the most desolate tract we have yet visited, and we are firmly persuaded that nothing will ever be likely to induce settlement in this quarter.—This character, the Chief informs us, extends far to the Eastward, the only variety being that towards the Jacques Cartier. In Tewkesbury the Mountains swell out into grander masses, but are altogether unsuitable to the purposes of Agriculture. All the Rocks we have yet seen are Granite; sometimes one of the materials composing it preponderates and sometimes the other. We selected a few specimens of the different kinds.

An Inspection of our provisions, on July the eleventh, convinced us that in order to do as much as possible while they lasted, it

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was necessary to dismiss two of our people, which was immediately done, and with the remainder of the party we struck off towards the first fork of the River Jacques Cartier in Tewkesbury. This tract we were anxious to find good Land as a continuation of that lying along the S. E. shores of the three Lakes before noticed. For a Mile we saw but little to satisfy us; but afterwards there began a parcel of excellent quality expanding over a spacious hollow between two Mountains, and covered with hard Timber of a fine growth, Birch, Maple, and Ash, with very large Spruce and Sapin, and becoming finer and finer until we reached the River Jacques Cartier, which we struck some distance below the fork. This Land is really capital and such as a settler has only to look at to convince him of its capability. Here again we found another instance of the incorrectness of our Diagram. The first fork of the Jacques Cartier is marked on the plan by its junction with a wide River flowing from a Lake: this River is only a narrow streamlet which we passed in two steps, and there is no Lake at its Source. We continued our course to the second fork along good Land, and there encamped opposite a very high Mountain which occupies the angle of the fork, and the summit of which terminates in a singular and apparently inaccessible conical Peak rising high above all others.

Thunder and violent rains kept us in Camp all the 12th; but next day we ascended the main Branch of the River with one Indian, while the others were occupying in constructing two Rafts. We went a distance of about four Miles above our Camp and found along the River an interval of good Land extending to the basis of the Mountains on each side, and in general width averaging a quarter of a Mile. The Lots also run very favorable to take advantage of this, lying lengthwise along the River. This tract of cultivable soil is ended by the Mountains on each side, suddenly closing right down upon the water's edge, and exhibiting stupendous rocky declivities too steep to be climbed. These in fact are the Mountains noticed on the Chief's Bark Map as those over which the Sun in winter cannot be seen till 10 o'Clock, which is simply occasioned by their steepness and clipping in the River so narrowly; for they are actually not higher here than when a little removed from the River below, nor are they really so high as the noble Mass opposite our Camp, which, from that point of view, seems to stand unrivalled towering above all in solitary grandeur.

Our

Our next operation was to cross the River on a Raft and to examine the Lands lying along the River which causes that fork of the Jacques Cartier at which our Camp is situated, and which, if good, would form a further continuation of our fine tract from the Lakes across Tewkesbury. With this intent, by advice of the Chief, we descended on a Raft about a Mile, and landing on the opposite shore, followed an Indian Portage between two Mountains for about four Miles until we struck the River where it branches off in two parts; all the Land for this distance is adapted for Settlement, but after three Miles begins to deteriorate, and at the end of the fourth Mile where it strikes the River, suddenly becomes bad. This however in all affords a belt of about eight miles of good Land from Lake St. Thomas to the point just described, of unknown width, but certainly sufficient for the accommodation of numerous Families of Settlers.

Having reason to suppose that by returning to the Camp along the River to its junction with the Jacques Cartier, instead of retracing our steps we should find the shore capable of Settlement, we, contrary to the opinion of the Chief, determined to do so. We however found his information correct and the Land of no value; for the Mountain which we had passed on the other side came shelving down for the most part to the very edge of the River, affording no interval of any consequence, and occasioning us a fatiguing and in some parts even a dangerous path. We however have the satisfaction of reflecting that we are now able to speak positively of its unfitness for useful purposes. This River and the Mountains are in Huron both called "Soulariski," (the Bark is long).

On July the 15th we descended the River Jacques Cartier, on Rafts prepared for the purpose, on the right Bank going downwards. The good Land bordering the River ceases at the end of a Mile by the approximation of the water's edge, nor does it again appear, except in patches, until nearly opposite Rivière l'Épaule, where there is a rich point of Land the commencement of a fine parcel lying lower down. On the left hand the Mountains on the contrary appear to recede from the River in proportion as those of the opposite shore push forward; and the interval left is entitled to a high character for excellence. The Timber is of a large growth of a good kind, and the Soil fit for any thing; this we had an opportunity of ascertaining by frequently landing and making an examination. There is no interruption to this fine tract

tract until the Epaule Mountain cuts it off for a quarter of a Mile by abruptly shelving down to the water's edge. Among the Timber we here find some fine Elms which usually indicate the best Soil, and which we have not very frequently met with in other parts of the Townships. Establishing our Camp between the Rivers Epaule et Cachée, those Streams were explored nearly across the Township. Along the former on each side there is a peculiarly fine succession of Land, well timbered with Maple, Birch, Elm, Ash, Spruce, and, what we have seldom found, some large Cedars on one part which would be useful as Shingles. The River Cachée is very different: the Land bordering being for the most part rough, hilly, stony, and black timbered, excepting Birch; indeed a height of Land between the two Rivers seems all along to divide the good Land of the Epaule from the rough wilderness along the Cachée. Numerous Millseats are however to be found upon the last River which in future time may be of great value to the neighbouring settled Districts.

Our provisions now failing, and no possibility of obtaining a further supply, we were reluctantly obliged to think of returning, although there still remained a tract of Country to be explored between Lakes Thomas, Vincent and William on the North and the Jacques Cartier on the South, which we have reason to believe is of excellent quality; four days would have done all; but for two days past we had subsisted on fish and a few parched peas, our bread and flour having been spent. We nevertheless determined to explore the Banks of the Jacques Cartier down to the Fall mentioned in the 4th paragraph, which would give us a continuous explored line along that River of thirteen Miles; and on carrying this into effect on each side we were gratified to discover that the valuable Lands there situated amply rewarded our search: immediately at the Fall indeed there is a quarter of a Mile of rocky embarrassed country on the River, but hard timbered; and we little doubt improving as it falls back, from the general nature of the neighbouring country we passed over.

Our business was now to return to Quebec by the best Route, being altogether bare of the means of subsistence, excepting the casual taking of a few fish. From the Fall therefore we struck across the Mountains to Lake au Hibou in the lower part of Tewkesbury, and on the very Summit were surprised to find a noble growth of Sugar Maples, Ash, and other useful trees indicating a fine country, and more free from stones than we have generally

rally found to be the case on spots so much elevated. The Lake itself is surrounded by a belt of black timber, but the Land is good. In Huron it is called *Oyahensque* (*se bouille*), from the appearance given to its surface by the leaping of fish which here swarm. Encamping some distance beyond the Lake, on the following morning all the party started with empty stomachs for the Settlement in the front Ranges. The Route lay along an Indian Path and over gentle eminences covered in general with noble Sugar Maples and other valuable Trees; the Soil excellent and remarkably free from underbrush. This lasted for about four Miles; along the remaining two (for Lake Hibou is about two leagues in a straight line from the Settlement,) we discovered a magnificent growth of Pine and Spruce Firs, much mixed, to the Settlement with hard Timber. About eleven reached Scott's clearings, where great hospitality was shewn to all the party; and the same evening, the 18th July, returned to Quebec, twenty seven days having been occupied in the prosecution of this business.

General summary from the foregoing operations :

1. It is ascertained that a tract of Land fit for Settlement borders and extends thirteen Miles along the River Jacques Cartier, commencing at Lot No. 9, in the seventh Range of Stoneham, and ending about Lot No. 30, in the sixteenth Range of Tewkesbury, and that a good Road only five Miles long might easily be continued to the former point from where the present Horse Road ends at Craig's Clearing.

2. That another fine belt or tract of Country commencing about three Miles beyond Lot No. 9, 7th Range of Stoneham, in a N. W. direction, coasts along three large Lakes full of fish, and extends N. N. E. about eight Miles with one Mile of interruption intersecting the former tract on the Jacques Cartier about the twelfth Range in Tewkesbury, and to which Lakes a Road of three Miles might be continued from the above mentioned Lot No. 9, in Stoneham, but over a steep Hill. The Jacques Cartier, where the Road would cross it, is well adapted for a Ferry.

3. That the Country lying in Stoneham W. N. W. of the three large Lakes and extending to the first branch of the River Ste. Anne, though not absolutely bad, is not of that quality to be likely to induce immediate Settlements, though in our opinion such Settlement will be likely to take place at a future period.

4. That partly from personal examination, and principally from information of the Indians, the whole tract of both Townships lying beyond Range 12, (with the exception of the N. N. W. parcel in Stoneham just mentioned, and the stripe along the Jacques Cartier reaching the 16th Range of Stoneham under head No. 1,) and extending to the end of the Townships are, from their bad quality of soil or mountainous character, altogether unfit for the purposes of Settlement, even though good patches may exist here and there in the Valley.

5. That the whole tract of Country from the River Cachée, passing Lake au Hibou, and along the Indian Path to Scott's clearing in the 2d Range, is one uninterrupted line of good Land through the heart of the lower division of both Townships, and probably extending to a considerable distance on each side of the said Indian Path. This tract is however rather Hilly in some parts, though never uncultivable.

6. That all over both Townships the bases of the Rocks is Granite assuming different appearances as the various component parts prevail largely or scantily; and that no metals were discovered, excepting one large mass of Rock on the River Jacques Cartier which indicated a large proportion of Iron. That however there may exist more minerals which the slight Geological knowledge of the undersigned, and the little time they could devote to such an investigation, did not allow them the means of ascertaining.

7. From the gross inaccuracy of McCarthy's Diagram, and the absence of Boundary Posts marking off the different Lots, it appears to be of paramount importance that a new Survey of the Townships should be made as far as the 12th Range, which would include all the good Land, excepting a stripe on the Jacques Cartier in Tewkesbury. Until this is done, no Settler can find his Land without the aid of a Surveyor, unless in the vicinity of the first Ranges, on which alone clearings have been made.

JOHN ADAMS,
Surveyor, &c.
JAMES P. BABY,