John G. Deane’s Journal of the Commission to explore the north eastern Boundary
Sept. 2 1838
Recd notice by a letter from Gov Ghent notifying me of the appointment of myself Milford P Norton and James Irish Esquire This was rec'd at Cherryfield - I wrote on the 4th by the return mail to MP Norton & James Irish Esqr notifying them to meet at the Bangor house in the City of Bangor on the 13th of Sept as early as practicable in the day

M P Norton arrived the evening previous Gen Irish arrived also from Moose head Lake Owing to bad weather which detained the Boat I did not arrive untill the morning of the day of meeting

I had previously requested the Gov to have the copies of the surveys and Maps made by the S Surveyors under the fith article of The The Treaty of Ghent and they also arrived in season -

We spent sometime in examin

ing them - Being the best acquainted with them I turned to such part as had a direct bear

ing on the exterior lines of the State – We dis cused various points of beginning - to wit

the Monument – Mars hill & the N West angle of Nova Scotia - as an exploring line had
been run by Johnson & Bouchette in 1817 99m and Pond
by Johnson & Adell in 1817 – 46 1/2 m to Beaver ^ on the Metis
which empties into the St Lawrence, being about
2 1/2 miles further than we claim - We called the Stream Beaver Stream on account of the beaver
on it
dam which are found ^ - As we were not prepared finally
to locate the line, we were unanimously of the opin
ion the we could do more essential service in making explorations to the Northward of the St John - on the Streams & heads of them which flow respectively into the St Lawrence & the Atlantic Ocean, and if possi
ble ascertain the longitude of the N W Angle and the height of the lands at the angle & West - We knew we could not obtain supplies at Madawaska, and there
fore should have to carry them with us - Con
sidering the position in which were were
in relation to the Province of N Brunswick
we did not dare to risk the transportation of them through the Province - My associates were inclined to send the supplies by the way of the Aroostook, and thence up the St - John or by the Little Machias and Fish river into the St John - I was for going up Moosehead Lake, down the Penobscot, up the Umbazokus, and down the Aliguash and St John to Grand River - [words smudged out]
The Gov appointed W'm P Parrot Surveyor - On inquiry we found the State had no instruments - Except com
mon compasses & a levels - except Deca
turs circle which Dr Jackson had in use
A large number applied for chances to go as laborers in different capacities - We stated to everyone, the State had made no appropriation and no one could expect payment until after the meeting of the Legislature & that their wages must be left to the Legislature next winter. We limited the number to 7 men and one Indian who had hunted some in that country. We calculated to employ a Frenchman or an Indian at Madawaska who had hunted in the Country. We calculated to employ a Frenchman or an Indian at Madawaska who had hunted in the Country at heads the streams falling into the St Lawrence. We made our selection from the applicants and wrote them on the 15th to be ready to start the next Thursday, except the Indian, whom I requested Jefferson Sinclair an Indian Agent to engage, who with one of the men whom I had selected to go with only one of the men of whom I had selected to go with only my man and directed them to be at Bangor on Monday the 24th of Sept 1838. Mr Norton endeavored to procure the necessary supplies in Bangor but could not find any blankets or pork which were suitable. He procured some merchants to send for the pork and I undertook to procure the blankets and such supplies as would be necessary for myself, man & Indian until we should meet on Grand River. We agreed that whichever party arrived at Grand River first should ascend immediately and that the other should follow. The State not having the proper instruments Capt Parrot sent to Boston for a Sextant.
Gen Irish Left for home in the Stage the morning of the 15 - Mr Norton left near night of the same day - The Gov equally with our selves was anxious that Dr Jackson with one of his men should be united with the party - Sunday morning I left and went by the way of Augusta to find the Dr I found some of his party who were not cer tain whether the Dr was in Portland or Bald win - Mr Wall one of his party went with me to Portland on Monday and the next day to Paris & he wrote me a line which I rec' d the next day, that his arrange ments were such in relation to his geologi cal survey that he could not go with us -

I procured the Blankets and some other supplies and sent them in the Steamboat to Bangor where the arrived Wednesday evening -

I afterwards procured some pork breas & small stores, for myself and party who were to go with me - I engaged my son M G Deane to go & we left home on Monday the 24th of Sept in the St Boat for Bangor where we arrived the same night - Gen Irish arrived in the Mail Stage the next morning - I borrowed a Sex tant in Portland but have no nautical Almanac

Capt Parrot waited the return of the boat as he had heard our Sextant was sent but by some accident or carelessness had
not been put on board from the Portland
I found my man Alfred Nelson & Indian
Joseph Polis at Bangor and Wm H Hunt
with the horse Waggon & Canoe - I had put on
our stores & baggage and directed them to set out for
M H Lake and have every thing ready to start
on my arrival – This was Tuesday 25th of Sept
Mr Norton had left the Friday previous
for the Aroostook to meet the boats & stores
which had started the day before - A Bargain
had been made with Lorenzo Leadbetter who had agreed
to Transport the Stores to No W on the Aroostook in 7 days 10
at most for $75, provided we would send two of our men
with him - and afterwards agreed to take the other three provi
ded he could be paid for their board - Mr Leadbetter started
7 days before I left Bangor for the Lake -

After Mr Norton had left he wrote
me from the intelligence he had obtained
he advised us to come & join the party on
the Aroostook & thought I could go quicker and
easier that way than the other - Knowing both
routes I declined the advice -

Thursday Sept 27 I left Bangor in the
stage for Munson - Gen Irish & Capt -
Parrot & M G Deane had a Waggon which
was then waiting at the door when I
set out since which time I have no authentic
information from them.
I arrived at P H Rice’s Munson
that night

Friday 28 I rode about halfway to Charles W -
Gowers at the foot of M head Lake –The last half
of the road is intolerable - I arrived at the Lake
in the afternoon My men had arrived
the night before, and had got every
thing ready for our departure - We took an hardy
meal & embarked about sunset and went
up to the barech Island & encamped

Sep 29  Went to the head of the Lake and
carried over 2 m 18 N to Penobscot River, run down
the Penobscot 6 m & encamped

Sep 30  Sun  Ran down the Penobscot into Cheruncook then
up the Umbazukus to a Portage 1/2 m carried over
& encamped

Oct 1st Mon  Went down the residue of the stream
and pond of the same name - carried over
the portage 1 3/4 miles into Ponche num gamook
(Muddy Pond) crossed the pond & carried
over a portage 1/2 a mile - Went down the stream
into Bam che num ga mook for great cross Lake - entered
the outlett and encamped

Oct 2d Tues  Ran down the outlet into Pongor
ga Waham (or Spruce Wigwam lake - Thence down
the Waliquash-ga qua-mook (or Hemlock bark
Wigwam Lake - thence down the outlett and
the first narrows on the Unsaskis or thigh Lake
& encamped - The lower end of the entire Lake is a
round pond -

Oct 3 Wed    Ran down through the residue
of the Un -Sas -Kis Lake and to the foot of
the Palaguan gomus or round pond - Then we
continued down & encamped about
5 miles above the great falls on the
Aliquash
Oct 4  On the way to the falls we saw a moose and calf Mr Nelson fired at the moose with one of my pistols & wounded her severly - We followed her into the bushes on the Island and she bled but went up the bank of the river so strong that we did not think it advisable to follow - Contd down & carried bye the falls 1/8 m run down to the St John - to the St Frances & 5 miles below to Jesse Wheelocks and Walter Powers. Though the navigation is dangerous in the night - we had a desire to lodge in an house and run down some time in the evening - Made many enquiries about timber or The minutes are in another mans book-

Oct 5  Run down to John Bakers and collected much information as to the past & present lumbering and what is intended the coming winter - Also as to Sir John Hervey's allowing licenses for cutting logs - See the memoranda in another book - He came with us as far as Mercures & has rendered essential service

Oct 6  Met a severe North East Snow hail & rain storm - Was compelled to stop untill the heaviest of it was over - arrived at and stopped at Michael Mercures - My object was to find a frenchman who was a hunter and acquainted who was well acquainted with Mestiquache Metis Green Mimouskes Tuledi Irvis Pistoles and the several branches Mr Mercure unders the streams very well but the English language very imperfectly and besides he asked $2 -00 per day which is two prices in this place - We lodged at Mercures wrote the Gov. direct to Col Hayes Bangor giving the information I had collected as to Sir John Hervey's allowing logs to be cut

Oct 7  By the aid of Jo Polis the Indian
hired at Old Town I hired Jack Berneur an Indian & Canoe for 1 -00 per day & directed him to join me the next day at Wm Mc Reas one mile below the mouth of Grand River - Went down & lodged at Vilail Thibodeaux

Oct 8         Bought 44lb sugar of Thibeodeaux Went to Mc Raes & thence to Capt Francis Vilettes to buy some wheat flour - Having to wait for the flour and pork not coming we were delayed untill night and put up as we could not start untill next morning - During this time I have no authentic account of the other party - Some transient rumors have been afloat & again contradicted - I wrote the Gov - stating to him the information I had collected from Gen Hall - as to the petition and Sir Johns answer, allowing the cutting of logs on the land held in possession by the inhabitants, and that it was understood and currently reported that Sir John's amount was founded upon the consent or approbation of the Gov of Maine

Oct 9         Went up the Grand River & en camped on its banks - There is much low intervale on the river - Spruce logs been cut here and some of them are now in the river. We went to the mouth of Sugar & up about 1 mile to the portage - The old portage is called 7 miles and passes sugar Mt ridge John Werth[?] cut a new portage for the purpose of hauling hay & cleared the Wagamsis for the purpose of driving timber and shortened the portage to 2 1/2 miles last year - The year before he had shortened the portage - We carried over and put in at his upper landing - We run down the Wagamsis & Ristigouche found the line about sunset and encamped
Oct 11 Rain commenced last night & has continued at intervals all day - This morning I sent the Indians back to the commencement of the Wagam Portage 10 or 12 miles with a letter stating to them the course I intended to pursue I left a letter for them at Mc Reas & notices on split stakes at the mouth of Grand River another where we dined & another where we encamped & another where the Wagam enters Grand River & another where we embarked on the Wagamsis.

Today we spotted many trees near & about the line and also at our encampment a short distance below the line on the north bank of the Ristigouche so that no one can mistake it -

A young man by the name of Belding Bert a native of Pleasant Valley on the Reneberasis left in this morning - He gave us considerable information as to the making of timber Ristigouche and streams running from above the line within our territory.

An horse boat came up loaded with supplies - They cooked dinner by our fire. They said they were bound about 2 miles above & that the concern belonged to Wm Maine. Had carried several loads before. Mr Maine is now a few miles below us bringing up another loaded scow. His calculation is to have 12 men.

Wm Maine made timber last year on the Mempticook or it is called the Little.
forks - several miles up the stream  
Oct 12 Friday

Left our encampment at the line 3 1/2 miles down
Hunters Brook comes in from the South - There is
a timbering establishment on the brook supplied
by Ritchie of Camp belltown - He is connected with
Gilmore & Rankin Heads of the concern in the
forest James Barnell & John McDonald (Scotch
& Stewart (a Yankee) They may borrow
from our side of the line

Eleven & a half miles from the line the Mempticook
comes in from the N West  This stream is said
to be boatable 7 or 9 miles to rapids where there
is a portage - Last year Wm Maine (Scotch
one concern - Angus Cathlan (Scotch) 2d concern
& Langyan & Leslie two concerns no owner Dudley
Langyan & George Leslie (Scotch - all made 7000
tons - Maine got down the first timber & best
that went to market last year The timber on
this stream is said to be good as the best on the
Ristigouche waters The miles & halves are measu-
red & marked on this stream - The distance is 25 1/2 m
from the line to its junction with the Kedgwick
On the point there is a clearing & shantee
possessed by Michael Dunbar - We dined
here The Ristigouche is [?] and nearly from bank
& on but in several places it runs over smooth
ledges  After dinner we entered the Tom kedy
wic and poled up 6 miles & encamped This
river is smaller & more rapid than the Ristigouche
Shortly after we encamped an horse beats scow
boat in charge of Charles Gallagher John Slager & Neville Bogue - or Bor a Micmac Indian
From Gallagher & Slager I obtained much of the provisions as well as the following
John Welch made timber in 36 & 37 up the Wagan-sis 1st year made 300 tons 2d year 700 tons Wm Maine is now making timber about 1 mile above the mouth of the Wa-gan-sis - has carried up several scow boats of provisions & hay The Ristigouche is considered to be the line here between N Brunswick & Canada and is the limit of licensing by either Province In this he is confirmed by all of whom I have inquired – Canada has not granted licenses last nor this year
John McDougald 8 years since went above the rapids now known by his name & got in a large quantity of timber he now lives at Bonaventure on the Bay of Chaleur –
Belding Bert & his Brother Wm Beldings 3 years ago made timber on the falls brook & clear Water brook the came in below the line side of the river the heads are above the line Also on States brook which comes in on the north side two miles above the line The timber was run last Spring - Supplied by Ritchie
Michael Gilmore last summer or summer before several miles above the line made 2000 tons which is now there - He was supplied by the Montgomerries & Paul - gave up the concern to them and they are carrying on a large business there - George Pidgeon is concerned or is their foreman
Their location is 22 or 23 miles above the line & 45 miles from Kedgwick Point

Patrick Burns is now making timber on States brook

Robert Rich & Arthur Rich (Scotch are now working timer above the line at Falls brook & clear water

Brook

The line is known here by every body as the American line is 22 miles from the mouth of Tom Kedgwick - States brook is 22 miles & the miles & halves are all marked on the Bank - It was done by Wm McDonald of Canada

Others have made timber above the line

Oct 13 Saturday

It commenced raining last night a little before 12 o'clock & rained & snowed all the next day & untill midnight We remained in camp all day

Oct 14 Sunday Went up river - stopped at James McClouds or McLeods camp, they gave dinner

We went up to the 23 mile tree and encamped

Oct 15 Went to States brook 3/4 mile found the camp of Charles McVicars & Patrick Burns - James Murphy & another man were there prepared to go up the stream to hunt timber Murphy's supplies were below at McDougald's rapids
We found we were too far West for the line. We descended and finding no line on the River we divided into two parties and went on the sides of the mountains on each side of the river - Both parties found it and followed it to the river - On both sides there is a narrow intervale covered with timber which we cleared away and put up a stake on each side The States brook heads to the Westward of the line and I am of opinion that it may be navigated to the line, if so the N W Angle may be arrived at in carrying less than 15 miles from the foot of Moosehead Lake - States crosses the line twice Oct 16 - Tuesday

In the morning M P Norton Esquire birch

With Francois Eames arrived in a ^ - Capt Wm P Parrot had come With them as far as the Wagan-sis but being somewhat discouraged returned to Madawaska with Rich and Vilette in a pirogue to avert the arrival of Gen Irish and the rest of the party we dispatched Francis and Joseph Polis in two with two birches to bring Gen Irish and Capt Parrot as fast as they could - except Parrot had retained all the instruments in his possession, we can do little without them that is a compass the odolite or level –

The mountains rise almost immediately from the river - The Mt on the N side is the highest on the line - 1/2 past 12 we commenced on the line & soon began to ascend the mountain - We ascended near 3/4 of a mile and arrived at the summit-
and a tract of good land soil redish loam & covered with an heavy growth of spruce fir grey & yellow Birch & now & then a lone pine

17th Oct Thursday

for 4 miles - we descended some obliquely on the Western slope of the land - came to States brook - Ascended and descended 1/2 a mile to a branch of the same brook, ascended and descended 11/2 M to the main brook, ascended and descended 3/4 M to a branch of the Petti wic a ok There is quite large swamp opens & there is little else growing here but bushes, Larch & meadow grass - We had at this place a good view Could see but slight elevation any where about us From this place we ascended & descended 13/4 M to the Main Petti wic a ok All the land from States brook to the place is covered with a stinted growth of spruce fir & some and Larches and Moss to this place -

After passing the Petti wic a ok we at the highlands of the Treaty of 1783 - The land ascends from this place 2 1/2 m to the yellow birch marked by John Johnson U S Surveyor in 1818 as the exploring NW angle of Nova Scotia

18th Oct Friday

Followed the line 21/2 miles from the Birch to the upper end of the beaver Pond on the Metis called by the commissioners Beaver stream - About 1/2 m from the Birch found a stream - & 4 or 5 others before we arrived at the pond or the Main Stream - We returned &
15

encamped for the night near the first brook -
19 Oct Fri Saturday

To day we are employed in making a
camp as this Will be our home station untill our
men arrive & we obtain more provisions

wet weather

20 Oct Sat Commenced snowing this morning and
continued snowing most of the night - We sent out two
men back in the Morning to the Quit a wam Kedg
Kedg wic for the residue of our provisions - It will
take 3 days for them to go & return - We directed
them to go down States brook in the hope of bring
ing our provisions by water within seven miles of the
N W angle of the treaty -

Oct 21 1838 Sunday - We explored some, but it snowed
some and the trees and bushes were so loaded with
that made little progress

Oct 22 Monday 1838

It has snowed some during the night & is snow
ing this morning - We remained in camp waiting
for our men -

Oct 23 Tuesday
We remained in camp, calculating the
departures made by the Surveyors in 1817 & 1818
to the west ward of the true Meridian, and from
the data I have - At the Aroostook the departure
is 2,11,96 at St John 2,87 91 at the Ristigouche 647 -75
at the Quit a wam Kedgwick or Tom Kedgwick 815 -75
& at the North west Angle 852,31 - I am inclined to think
the departure is greater - From this calculation the Aroos
took falls will fall west of the line and the famous
Mars Hill will be more than two miles from it -
24 Oct - Wednesday 1838

Mr Norton and I explored today and went to
the easterly part of the Ridge on which the yellow Birch
stands and find the course of the small brook near
our camp runs South easterly and had where we
crossed it attained considerable size - To the
northward & northward & Eastward a ridge runs
parallel to it - Beyond the ridge another
appears, which is we think the range between
the Metis & Metapediac - Still father of east is
a blue ranges much higher than the others
and as we suppose is the range on the banks
of the Metapediac river - The stream near our
camp, from all we can yet discover, appears
to be a tributary of the Pette Wic-a-ok, if so
the dividing ridge will be the one to the north
Ward & eastward of the brook - This will carry
the angle on the exploring line a mile or there-
abouts further north -

25 Oct Thursday

When we sent Francois & Joseph, the Idians, back
for Capt Parrot we directed them, to return With
him & Gen Irish if he was there immediately- but
if Parrot had left to return themselves immediately -
Which they said the could in six days, and they
have come into the N W Angle in a day more-
to day is the tenth since their departure -
When we sent Mr Nelson & our Indian out
for provisions I directed them to be back in 3 day
which was ample time - Mr Norton directed
them to remain untill the others arrived - This
the sixth day since they left, and have not
returned - I hope the will in the course of to
day, if they do not we must leave in the morning as
we shall be out of provisions -

At 12 o'clock - our men returned - Gen Irish,
Capt Wm Parrot, Alfred Hunter, Sam Lead
t better, Daniel D Dudley, Wm Bryant, Sampson
M Powers, James Campbell Junr with them
and Melvin G Deane came with them - Our men
who returned are Alfred Nelson, and Francois
Eameus Jack Bernan, & Joseph Polis -

After the arrival of Gen Irish the commissioners held
a consultation as to their ultimate movements, and
concluded to explore east & West on the treaty high
lands & Westward as far as the season will permit -
We discussed the subject of taking the level of the
country on the line of the Metis, and were convin
convinced of the improbability of accomplishing it
this season - We also concluded to take level of the
country from Beaver pond as far south as we
can this season -

Gen Irish takes the Western exploration, and
Mr Norton & Mr Deane the eastern, to ascertain
the appearance of the country, into what stream
the brook near our camps fall, and the source
of the Metis -

the men
I the morning six of ^ go back for [crossed out] resi
due of the provisions we shall want at this place -
every

It has snowed nearly ^ day & night and there is a
fair prospect of snow tomorrow, as it has snowed
more or less every day for the last ten days –
18 Oct 26 Friday 1838

Six of our men went for our supplies. Gen Irish remained in camp, repairing his clothes & boots and making preparations, to explore Westward as soon as our men return with the supplies. Capt Parrot Bryant & Deane were employed in bushing the old exporing line, preparatory to levelling. Mr Norton & I Mr Hunter & Jack Bernaud went down the small brook which runs Southerly by our camps to ascertain whether it emptied into the Metis or Metapediac. It course varied from SSW to SE. We went down it until it had increased to a large brook. Its course is generally near South but where we left it its course was nearly east. The ridge on which the yellow Birch marked by Johnson runs parallel to it. There is a ridge also on the opposite side of the brook. We had a view of the ridge which appeared to rise & run in a South Easterly direction. We were reasonably satisfied that the brook a tributary of the Petti Wick a ok which empties itself into the Metapediac – There being a possibility that we might be in an error about it. We directed Jack to follow the stream until it united with some other stream. We returned to camp in the evening.

Oct 27 1838 Saturday

Capt Parrot, Minor Hunter & Bryant & Jo - Polis are engaged to day in falling trees for celestial observations. Jack returned about noon and reported that he followed the brook about seven miles, where it had become large and emptied itself into the Petti Wick a ok stream.
we knew before - that the stream was large and had been cleared for driving timber - His report settles the question that the stream near our camp does not flow into the St Lawrence - We have to look farther North for the NW Angle of the Treaty, which I think will be on the ridge on the opposite side of the brook - This ridge is much lower than the ridge on which the yellow birch stands - Capt Parrots survey will show the difference -

Sent Jo - to explore the brook to its source which cannot be far from its size and the appearance of a small swamp near at hand; and also to see if the ridge on the Northerly side connects with the ridge on which the yellow Birch stands as that ridge tends N Westerly -

Jo - returned & reports that the head of the brook is about one mile West of the line, & beyond the head of the brook the land falls off to the Northward and Westward & that the ridges on each side of the brook appear to come together -

Sunday Oct 28th 1838

We sent Jo - to the Beaver or Metis Stream and the Ridges on each side and at the head which appears to be a ridge which runs parallel to the Met the ridge which runs parallel to a pediac and Unites with ^ Jacks brook, the tributary which he traced to the Petti Wic a ok- and also the ridge parallel to it which is the continuation of Jacks brook ridge- Jo returned & reported that the small brook East of the next ridge empties into Jacks brook and that he traced the Metis to its source- and that the land is high about the head it
The men returned this afternoon after wandering sometime after the line. The men are preparing their loads for the morning.

Oct 29 - Monday

Gen Irish with Alfred Hunter Alfred Nelson Daniel D Dudley Samuel Leadbetter Francois Eaneas, stared on the Western exploration Capt Wm P Parrot James Campbell Jim Sampson M Powers Wm Bryant & M G Deane started to level on the old exploring line.

John G Deane Milford P Norton, Joseph Polis and Jack Bernau started to explore East.

Began on ridge beyond 2d brook & run E6 N 40 ENE 60 SE, S, SW 100 SE 60 NE 20 ENE 40 ESE 108 S320

The above courses are on the ridge dividing the Metis from Jack's brook - We could see the valley of the Metis which runs parallell to the last course- There is a ridge on the opposite side of the opposite side from a distant 1 or 1 1/2 miles which comes from the north or north a little westerly- and inclines easterly and south easterly- About the head of the Metis the land appears to be flat- If the line should fall two miles farther east the NW Angle of Nova Scotia may be found on the high ridges between the Metis & Metapediac, which will be a good location.
Sunday Oct 30

Mr Norton explored to day in continuation of My exploration yesterday and passed up to the source of the Metis - At the source of the Metis is flat land - A small place is covered with blueberry bushes and from the other side a small branch of Jacks brook runs - The course of the Metis here North easterly -

[hand-drawn sketch]

I explored about the source of the Northern branch of Jacks brook -

Wednesday Oct 31

Left our camp at the NW Angle arrived at the batteaux in the evening - Our route was down the line, across the Petty Wee a ok, a small branch of the same stream - States brook & a small branch of the same brook, where we left the line and went down on the westerly side of the main brook - Crossed the main branch and two other branches coming in from the North west - also several timber roads [hand-drawn sketch]
Thursday Nov 1st

Left the batteaux after taking a small supply of provisions for our return - Run down States brook the navigation of which is bad & tedious, to Charles McVicars & Patrick Burns camp within ½ a mile of the Quet a wam Kedg wic, where we dined - After dinner we entered the Kedg wic, and found it full of floating anchor ice - About 2 miles down we found for several rods the river entirely obstructed, but we broke through without great delay - We ran down in all about 11 miles to Whalings camp, where we were hospitably entertained for the night - We have invariably found all hospitable and generous at all the camp where we have called & learn the custom to be universal - Within one or two miles from the line a brook comes in from the South West, the name of which we could not ascertain, the sources of which are above the line - We had previously found the roads crossing the line, while searching for it Norman McCloud carries on the concern - The McVickars concern are forking as they call it here, that is they are getting in timber by hand - James Murphy has his supplies up but is below and his men – A young man by the name of Campbell took & worked his passage in our canoe when going down for supplies to carry on a small concern of his own - He informed us that 8 or 9 years ago Sandy Robinson - & John Moor timber up the Kedg wic - He is wrong as to time as will appear - John McDougald was the first who made timber as high up as the rapids called
McDougalds - McDougald made timber there 8 years ago and it not very probable that he went up so far as the line - Separate from the Montgomery concern under the management of Pidgeon he is carrying on a concern of his own - He has very large supplies of provisions provender & hay and a large crew -

Friday Nov 2d 1838-

Left Whalings camp, very early in a snow storm, found the ice floating as on the day previous found also the river frozen over for 20 or 30 rods which delayed us some time –

There is a concern making timber up the Clear [written on side "Daniel Hudney"] Water brook- The brook has its source to the West of the line - Supplies large - Timber has been made up this brook several years-

Daniel Hedney

There is a concern at falls brook, conducted by one Craven - This brook has its sources to the west of the line - Charles & John Belden made timber there in 1837-

One Mordic or Rowdie, is making timber above States brook-

At the camps we were informed that timbering parties work the whole year taking only a

in the course of the year ^ vacation of about one month -

From all we could see the country is far from being a pine timbered country - We did not on average see 6 pines in a day, and many of them were on high mountains -

From all we could see the country is far from being a pine timbered country - We did not on average see 6 pines in a day, and many of them were on high mountains - The is small and much of it rotten - What they find is on the sides of the mountains and
in the ravines through which the brooks enter the river -

We [?]nded to Michael Dunbars Kedg Wic point, bought some potatoes & tea, and cooked and dined - The weather softened & the snow storm became rain - We went up the Ristigouche about 6 miles & encamped - The anchor had begun to melt - There was much less in the Ristigouche than in the Kedg-wic - Saturday Nov 3rd

Snowed in the morning - The anchor ice had dissolved and we ascended to the line - Two miles below the line Hunters brook comes in from the South - This brook comes from the Sugar hill range, and from the direction of Grand River - It may be timber will be taken from West of the line - Barnett McDonald carry on the concern have large supplies, and their main encampment is said to be six miles back from the river - Encamped at our old encampment at the line - At dinner to day we ate all our bread, and had left about 1 pound of sugar and two of pork -

Sunday Nov 4th

Commenced raining the latter part of the night and rained the whole day - We went up the Ristigouche about an hundred rods above the mouth of the H.Wagan-Sis to William Maines main deposit of supplies - We followed his road 2 or 3 miles, to find his camp and procure some supplies of provisions - Coming to an
extensive hard wood ridge, which led us to conclude the camp be some miles further off - We re-traced our steps - At the main deposit we found a barrel of flour which had been opened - We took a few pounds leaving a half dollar in its place - We then ascended the H-Wagan-Sis to the beginning of the long portage - made some hasty pudding and dined -

Jo Polis choose to pursue the H Wagan sis, through bushes and over logs to the short portage with his canoe and baggage - Jacobi Bernau choose to carry his canoe and baggage over the long portage - Its length is variously estimated, by some eight, by others seven by others six and by others five miles - Mr Norton and myself were the three hours in travelling over, and from our travelling elsewhere where the miles were measured we judged to be five miles -

Jo Polis succeeded in getting up the stream and bringing the baggage to our fire near an hour after sunset - Jack succeeded in getting his canoe to the short portage and brought his baggage in an hour and half after sunset - We brought our tent, and in a short time we shelter ourselves from the rain and with good fire cooked our supper and made ourselves quite comfortable - It rained hard all day and made our travelling very uncomfortable -

Mon Nov 5

Jo & Jack started as soon as it was light for their canoes, and came in about 9,0,clock
26

During their absence Mr Norton made & baked some cakes, and fried, our entire stock of pork -
After breakfast we embarked on the H Wagan ran down it and Grand river to the St John and arrived at Francois Violettes between 3 & 4 o'clock - Wit cold and hungry –

Settled with and paid Jack Bernau - gave Polis $10 towards his pay for wages and subsistance Tuesday Nov 6

Jo & Jack departed for home - Jack took Mr - Norton up river - I passed over the river to Wm McRays, for the purpose of collecting all I can from Gen Hall, a Yankee, who has been 8 years in the settlement, and the best means of any body of giving the most authentic of the transactions in the settlement –

William Shephard says that 6 years ago he assisted Sandy Robinson in making timber on States Brook and up the Kedg wic - Wednesday 7th Nov - 1838

Gen Prince B Hall who has resided in the Madawaska settlement for the last 8 years and appears to be well acquainted with all the proceedings in the settlement both as it relates to the inhabitants and the management of the Government of New Brunswick, states in substance that some time this autumn that Major Coombs and sundry other persons from 20 to fifty petitioned Sir John Harvey - setting forth their loyalty to her Majesty and reminding of the services they had rendered the government
in aiding the transit of the troops to Canada – Also that they were poor and had not the means of comfortable except they could be allowed to cut timber - praying also for liberty to cut timber under the restrictions as his excellency might prescribe - His Excellency through private secretary acknowledged the receipt of the petition by letter to Major Coombs stating also that liberty would be given to cut logs under such restrictions as would hereafter be made known by the Governor or - 

At the same time the Gov. himself or by his secretary wrote the priest - stating that licenses would be granted to such poor people to cut logs as he should designate - The priest declined the unpleasant office-- This letter passed into the hands of Sir John Caldwell, and was detained by him several days - In the mean time Sir J C made many contracts with the inhabitants to cut him logs 12 feet long and 22 inches at the top end, no log to have a knot which a dollar would not cover for which he agreed to pay 3/6, and if the diameter was increased the price per log was to be increased in proportion - 

Sir JC has made contracts in all parts of the settlement but the extent of them is not at present known - 

From my conversation to day with Major Coombs it is his opinion that Sir JC is endeavoring to engross the lumber business above the [unreadable] so as to obtain logs at his own price - not because
Sir JC rec'd the letter before alluded to at the time that he rec'd his - Secondly because Sir JC proceeded to make contracts many days before he
3d because the logs could not be manufactured into saleable timber
communicated the letter to the priest ^ He says also that McLaughlan was privy to and conniving at it as he brought the letter to Sir JC and moreover is a favorite of his - He further states that he went to Fredericton, had an interview with the Governor, stating all the facts, and adds the Gov - was displeased, and he was apprehensive no licenses would be granted
Gen Hall further states that large quantities of timber have been taken off every year since he has been here - that most of it has gone clear - some of it has been seized and afterwards given up unconditionally - some by paying duties, and very little has been held as absolutely forfeited -
Gen Hall further says that Major Coombs knows the opinion of Sir John Harvey, and Coombs is of the opinion that the British will have a war with us if we do not yield them all the territory which the King of Holland would have given them, & that they will not give any equivalent in territory or in the navigation of the St John - The above is the opinion of an individual and I suppose is worth as much & no more as many opinions I have heard expressed -
Gen Hall further states that 8 m tons are cut & destroyed annually and that Bakers estimate is not high enough –
Thursday Nov 8th 1838

Capt Francois Violette informs me that he last Sunday carried down to the falls Capt Hawkshaw of the British Engineers, who had gone up the St John, examining the river and its tributaries as far up as Fish river for the purpose of stationing troops or establishing forts - and that the Capt went up a fortnight before-

Friday Nov 9th

Andrew Michaud says he has been on the line from the Monument to St John 9 years ago with Col Grayton or Grayson of the British army - He was then Stationed at Fredericton - The Cols object was not disclosed to him - He also says that he has repeatedly been with McLaughlan in reconnoitering the line from St John to the Restigouche. He is going to make timber up the Grand River with Edward Nicholson, that there is a great quantity of pine up the river, but the most and best is to the West of the line - They intend using 2 four horse teams - I asked him McLaughlan's object in reconnoitering the line, he said it was to see who was cutting - I remarked McLaughlan did not find much timber anywhere; he said McLaughlan was well disposed and was willing the poor people should live -

Michaud has been much employed by McLaughlan -

Michaud says he made 400 tons of timber last year on the lot he lives on & the adjoining lots -

The lot which he lives was a British grant
and I am not certain the other was not - There is no appearance of pine anywhere in the vicinity of the St John, and the grants have not been survey-ed, they in practice extend back until the find timber -

In January 1836 I visited the Madawaska settlement and went up to St Francis - In the Province & in Madawaska I saw many notices posted up by the Provincial authorities forbidding all cutting within the disputed territory, pursuant to the arrangement made with the land agents of Maine and Massachusetts - In my passage before & down through Madawaska, I heard of many lots of timber which had been made & sold at Fredericton & St John - The people up & down the river were then making timber -

On my return I met McLaughlan at Tobique and held a conversation with him to ascertain how he managed the timber on the disputed territory - I asked him if the Gov't permitted cutting on the Seignory - He said yes -

I asked him if they permitted cutting on
lands granted in Madawaska - He said yes -
The agreement of the land agents had made no
exception as to the cutting within the disputed territo-
ry although McLaughlan in whose charge the territory
was placed by the Prov. Gov't did -
As I had ascertained previously that timber in
considerable quantities had been made on land
not embraced in either of the exceptions made by
McLaughlan, And being also informed that
duties had been paid on very little and very little
had been seized, I extended my inquiries and to made
in ascertaining and preventing the making of the tim-
ber, and whether the lumber might not avoid the
Officers of the government - To all which he replied
in substance that it was impossible that any tim-
er improperly cut could be got to market with
out the knowledge of some of the Officers of the gov't
Because he said, they were always looking the
makers while making the timber - examined all
the rafts at Woodstock, at Fredericton & last off
all it underwent a strict search at St John, at
which place if it successfully passed all the aforesaid places, it would certainly be detected.

The practical comment -
In 1836 Report says the Beckwiths made on the Seignory
from 1 to 2000 tons and purchased or procured from
other sources enough to make 11,000 tons in the whole -
The gross amount I think report overrates - When
the timber got to market it was all seized, and
bonded at £1 per ton - The Beckwiths subsequently procured certificates for timber cut on the
Seignory and on granted lands and succeeded in cancelling the bond for all but 500 tons for which they paid.

The above does not embrace Coombs timber and numerous other smaller lots which were cut and sold below by other persons.

I am also informed the Beckwiths last season made as usual 1 or 2000 tons on the Seignory, and purchased of persons up and down the river the river until they had 8000 tons, carried it to market and none of it was seized - The Beckwiths timber not embrace near all all that was made - There were other small their own timber dealers, and many who carried to market - Baker sold most of his to Beckwith - but the small lot he carried to market was detained & bonded at £1,60 per ton - Wheelocks went free.

I am also informed that timber has been made and carried to market in the same manner every year.

All my investigations thus far tends conclusively to show that our forests have been and are now being stripped of the handy timber of which there is not and will not be any amount - If the Country is left as it is now in the jurisdiction of the British, the most available will be all cut & when we triumph over British occupation & obtain we the peaceful possession of our domain, which shall have the soil merely denudated of its timber - How long the final settlement will be delayed, is not for me to predict, but Maine and Massachusetts ought to press the subject to an immedi
-ate and final settlement -

The fact is not and cannot be disquished to any one who has examined the subject, that the object the British is delay, and by the extention of the settle ments and their lack of watchfulness, is all intended to strengthen their usurpations, in hope of final suc cess -

This year from the encouragement taken from the answer from the Gov. to the petition, cutting will be much greater than in former years - The most inteligent give it as their opinion, that all who have contracted to sell Sir J Caldwell will not be stopped by the Govt from the fulfillment of their contracts - Sir J C is supplying his mill entirely from the disputed territory, preserving his timber on the Seignory which he reserved in his sale to Dr Cummins -

How long Will Maine submit, and allow the present system to go on, which is tending to impair her sovriengly and destroying her property -

Friday a snow storm, Saturday cloudy & falling weather - Sunday hard rain Monday in the afternoon & night very heavy - Tuesday cloudy & some storm, Wednesday-Thursday am heavy rain commenced & continued through Friday The St John has risen 7 or 8 feet –
Saturday Nov 10 - 1838

Rained during much of the night - it commenced snowing the latter part of the night & is now snowing - the river still rising - As soon as the weather clears the people here calculate upon an heavy frost and the setting in of winter -

Capt Fermin Thibedeau says that heretofore the inhabitants on this river have made from five to ten thousand tons of timber annually and that this year they will do much more than has been done in any proceeding year, independent of the logs cut for Sir J Caldwell, in consequence of the encouragement the people have taken from the petition to, and answer of Sir S Harvey Lt Gov. of N Brunswick -

Capt Thibedeau, who is a firm believer in, and not unfriendly to the American claim, remarks with some pitch & sarcasm that the Americans will suffer the British to get the territory, or if the Americans ever get it, it will not be until the British have got all the timber -

Baptiste Olivier Thibedeau, who is well acquainted with the Green River & Branches & all the upper waters of the Ristigouche, says that high Mountains commence near the head of Tom Kedg wic and continue Westwardly to the head of Tuledi river, that they are higher than any mountains on the Kedg-wic or in this part of the country - The mountains lie along the upper branches of the Rimousky - Generally above the exploring line the Mountain are small are situated in relation to the waters
as other Mountains in this region are - He has also given me the common names of the branches of of the Green River, which are entered on the map - Sunday 11th Nov 1838

Major Coombs informs that an express came through from Canada yesterday for all the troops in the Province to march to Canada, caused by the arrest of Mr Ellis, formerly the private Secretary of Lt Durham, who is reported to have been taken with all his papers by the Patriots & held a prisoner by them - The people here are calculating on great trouble in Canada, as they appear to wish it on account of the pay they obtain in the assistance they render the Govt in the transit of troops -

I am informed that the British troops last winter cut a road from Madawaska River on the west side of Damisconata to the Great Portage - Maj Coombs a more level route may be found from the head of the Damisconata Lake to the St Lawrence, and that it lies chiefly through an hard wood country with only one Mt on it and that memorials have been presented to Sir J Colbourne and Sir John Harvey on the subject, and that they had determined to have it explored - The route lies to the Northward & Eastward of the present Portage -

I spent last evening with Sir J Caldwell - From Sir J Caldwell I learn that the poor people will be allowed to cut about three hundred logs each on their possessions, and that the making of timber will be entirely stopped - I replied I supposed the cullers and the Govt would do this, as they had done in
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former years, and that more would be made this
than any preceding year -

Sir J produced a late published map, and pointed
out the tract containing nearly all the land watered
by the St - John & its branches, and said he supposed
the Gov for that would be willing to give us the free
navigation of the St John - I only asked him what
use the navigation of the St John would be, when the
country was gone - Sir J says as all of them do
who want to get the country North of the St John that
the country is cold, has little timber on it and is
worth little or nothing to us, and that we may as
well give it up - My reply was, that this was the part
which rendered all the residue valuable to us, that
as a matter of individual opinion, the British could be
accomodated with a mail route, for an equivalent
in the free navigation of the St John but otherwise
I presumed Maine would not yield her right -

Monday Nov 12th 1838

Mr S W Smith of Frederiction & his men who
are employed in Mr Langhans depot have been up
the river St John to prevent the making of timber,
up the River - He lately been up the Aroostook - and
says they shall stop the cutting - He says he found
some made, and stopped making - I told him
I had no doubt they ceased while he was there -
I say if they do as they have alone heretofore they
will make a show while we are in the country &
when we are gone they will relax and in the
spring when the timber is down they will not
seize on the plan, that they cannot identify
the timber and it will all go to market - A few trifling lots may be seized to keep up the farce - which may be bonded and in the end duties taken or a trifling sum for the timber -

Sir John Caldwell was polite enough to conduct me to see his work on the falls consisting a dam at the head a mill with two gangs one single saw and two circular saws which he employs chiefly in the manufacture of deals - He makes from the slabs & poor deals, boards in considerable quantities - and a rail road on which he carries his up an inclined plane by an endless chain & pullies, to the level, thence by horse power to the brink of the hill, where he send them down in a dry sluice to the waters below - His rail road is a single rail on posts, and what is called the suspension rail road - The deals are placed on frame work on each side behind the rail - He has improved the place much, and instead of its being of mere transit and no accommodation for the traveller, it is now a place of business and comparatively comfortable that is comfortable to the traveller as any place from Woostook upwards -

Sir John as I learn from all sources, although he has 50,000 acres of timbered lands on the Mad -awaska River & Damiscanota Lake, procures the main part of his logs from the inhabitants of Madawasaka, at the rate of 2,40 or 2,020 per m deliv -ed in his mill pond - He in showing me his deals observed repeatedly that were clear stuff or nearly so, and so they ought to be as they are only 12 & 16 feet long, and cut from the best
part of the tree, and the residue is left to rot in the forest - I have on Grand River seen many trees from which one 12 foot log only was cut - Which wastes more timber than is manufactured -

The price Sir J pays for logs at his mill would not pay the cutting and hauling with us and it must I think be much cheaper for him to purchase than to cut haul & drive from his own lands - His mill now when in full operation as it was for three months, having stopped one or two week since, as I am informed will saw 1000 logs a week -

Sir John calculates to do a profitable business in shipping his boards to the British West Indies to build houses for the free negroes -

So our timber goes, and ^ look quietly on -

Here I will add a note to page 30

The winter of 36 I visited the Grand falls with Sir John, discoursed with him on the subject of building Mills - I went with him to Madawaska and heard his discourses with the people and the contracts he commenced with them for the lumber he should want the next season - I put some queries and was answered that timber could by the assent of the Governor be cut any where for his use - In my conversation with Mr Mc Lauchlan, I inquired whether Sir John would be allowed to cut or have timber cut any where for his buildings, remarking that the intention was to cut in the disputed territory - The reply was that he would be allowed because it was for the purpose of building - Here it will be seen, Sir John's place was
within N Brunswick and the timber was to be taken from the disputed territory in violation of the agreement before mentioned of the land agents - If timber could be taken from the territory to build on in one place

British soil & it might in another and the agreement in practice made a mere nulity - It has in fact in practice been made a nullity - It has been pretended to be observed while it has been totally violated both in letter and spirit -

Gen Irish Capt Parrot and the men A Hunter A Nelson Leadbetter Bryant and James Campbell Jr Powers M G Deane Dudley & Francois Eanes arrived in the evening having consumed all their provisions -

Tuesday 13 - Gen Irish Capt Parrot Sam Leadbetter W Bryant, went up the river to the line to try the course of the line and make other observations if the weather would permit - The day was cloudy & rained - I with the other men left the Grand falls on our return, and went down as far as the De Chute -

Wednesday 14

Set out before day light and run down to Woodstock where we arrived a little past 11 o'clock AM - The Stage had gone & I hired an extra for Myself & men - Arrived at Houlton a little after sunset - The Stage had left - I hired an extra, I which I was able to send six of the men Hunter Nelson Dudley Powers
Campbell & Francois - From DeChute it is 40 M to Woodstock 12 to Houlton & 25 to the forks in all 77 m, Where they overtook the Stage -

Thursday 15

I & M G Deane remained at Houlton
Gen Irish Capt Parrot & the men went to the line on the Aroostook and made some observation there - Mr Norton who had been some days up the St John, joined some where at the Grand falls or on their passage down - Nelson Dudley Campbell arrived at their places of abode that night & Hunter & Powers the next night -

Friday 16

Mr Norton Gen Irish Capt Parrot
& Bryant

Leadbetter ^ arrived, and we set out in the Stage late in the afternoon, except Gen Irish who remained to go down to the Monument at Source of the St Croix - We arrived at the forks of the Matawamkeag about 12 at night -

Saturday 17

Left about 2 AM and arrived in Bangor at some thing past 2 o,clock AM on Sunday - Bryant left at Piscataquis and Leadbetter at Old Town -
Sunday 18th Nov 1838

Mr Norton left early in the morning for his residence.

Monday 19th

M G Deane left in the steamboat for Portland where he arrived the same night - I remained in Bangor Monday Tuesday

I went to old town to adjust some accounts for services rendered in the exploration -

Tuesday 20th

Returned from old town & remained in Bangor until Friday Morn the 23rd examining plans & field notes to complete our plan of the northern part of the state - Gen Irish arrived Thursday night

Friday 23

In the evening I arrived at my house in Portland

Saturday 24

I employed a draftsman to make the map, and get my baggage from the boat which I could not do the night before -

Sunday 25

Wrote G W Coffin land agent for a copy of his map of the surveyed lands

Monday 26 Nov 1838

Commenced the Map
Tuesday 27 Nov
Making map

Wednesday 28
Making map

Thursday 29 Nov 1838
Making map

Friday 30 Nov
Making map - Wrote Dr - Ezekiel Holmes for a copy of his survey of Fish River or Write E L Hamlin land agent for a copy of Dr Roses survey of the British M's ranges from the head of the Sebois to the heads of the St John & Penobscot rivers - Also for a copy of the Survey of the townships in the disputed territory - surveyed the last season - Also to request Capt Parrot to send a copy of his survey under the Commissioners -