

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.

(From the Montreal Gazette.)

We have always been among those who have both deplored and disapproved of the great, and we are afraid, the unnecessary delay which has taken place in coming to some final settlement on the subject of the Boundary question. That delay has not only been attended with a great deal of expensive and warm discussion between both nations, but has tended to throw doubts and difficulties around the main question at issue; thus affording the grasping and unprincipled authorities of the United States various opportunities of throwing obstacles in the way of an adjustment of the question, so as to enable them to accumulate every possible means, no matter whether founded on fact or not, of proving the justice of their claims to the territory in dispute. We have already alluded to the false, and we may safely add, the forged maps, which, by characteristic trickery, they contrived to enter among the proceedings relating to the decision of this dispute, and the attempt made to found an argument upon a survey which was never made. We had no time, however, until now, to allude to another false position, which, as appears from the late Report of Col. Mudge and Mr. Featherstonhaugh, has been assumed, all along, by the Americans. We mean, of course, the great and unpardonable blunder committed, in 1817, by the Surveyor General of this Province, (Mr. Bouchette.) We have always entertained a high personal respect for that officer. He has produced literary and scientific works, which do him infinite credit, and which, more than any others that we know of, have exhibited the capabilities of this Province as a superior field for enterprise and industry. But this will not prevent us from marking our disapprobation of the conduct, and, we fear, the ignorance, of Colonel Bouchette, with respect to the boundary question, as disclosed by the late Commissioners, in their Report, now so generally before the public. We were, indeed, aware, that the views of the Surveyor General did not exactly coincide with claims advanced by Government with regard to this most important question. But we were previously totally ignorant of the share which he had himself in throwing doubts over those just claims, and in propping up the opposite demands of the Americans. The Surveyor General has much to account for; but we are not disposed to blame him in any other terms than those applied to his conduct by the Commissioners. What, if such a Commission as the late one had never been appointed? Why, as heretofore, the Imperial Government, acting on the information of one of its own officers, and urged by the false pretences of the United States, founded on such information, might, in an unguarded hour, be induced to give up the point; and thus completely destroy the integrity of the British Empire on this Continent. Such are the serious events that might arise out of the mere blunderings of a Provincial officer. But we have reason to be thankful that it is otherwise; and that those blunderings are now so thoroughly exposed, as to be of no avail whatever to those who have hitherto endeavoured to make so much of them.

That part of the Report of the Commissioners, which relates to this point, is so important in itself, and so explanatory of the foregoing observations, which have been merely prompted by a sense of our public duty, that we are compelled to subjoin it. It is as follows:—

"It being necessary in the execution of our duty to report the true elevation above the sea of that point where the official agents of Maine place their Northwest angle of New Brunswick, it has appeared to us not less necessary to account, if possible, for the wide difference between the 400 feet which we report, and the 'from 2,000 to 3,000 feet' reported to their government by the commissioners of Maine. It is with great reluctance, therefore, that we state our conviction that it has originated in a singular delusion on the part of Col. Bouchette, her Majesty's Surveyor General of Lower Canada; we therefore proceed, as our duty enjoins us, to put your Lordship in possession of the truth, with regard to a mistake which we think has had much to do in creating in the United States erroneous ideas respecting the line claimed in that country as the 'highlands' of the treaty of 1783.

We have already stated that Col. Bouchette was associated by the joint commission, in 1817, with Mr. Johnson, the American surveyor, for the purpose of running an exploratory North line, and Colonel Bouchette, after conducting the exploratory line, reported a section of elevations to the commission under the following title:

"Section showing the different heights of land between the monuments at the source of the Saint Croix, and the first waters of the Restigouche at the extremity of the exploring line."

This section, which bears the official signature of "Jos. Bouchette, S. General," exhibits an inclined profile of the country from the monument at the source of the St. Croix, to the Great Waggansis, a stream flowing into the Restigouche, with several of the streams intersected by the due North line in its course.

We shall accompany this report with a copy of Colonel Bouchette's section,\* which is altogether erroneous. All the points on the section being visited by one universal error which pervades it, we shall only specify one of those points, viz.: that where the due North line strikes the St. John. This point, the height of which we know by repeated barometrical measurements, and by actual hand level made from tide water to the Great Falls of the St. John, does not exceed 300 feet above the level of the sea. Colonel Bouchette has put it down at 1,850 feet, making that point 1,000 feet above the level of the monument, and the monument 850 feet above the level of the sea.

As the section of Colonel Bouchette proceeds farther to the north, it proportionately ascends; so that the Great Waggansis is made to stand at 2,050 feet above the level of the sea, when probably its true

\* The original section has a perpendicular scale at each extremity, which gives the elevation of the different points. We have been obliged, on account of the diminutive scale upon which we have copied the original, vide, map B, No. 5, to express the figures in English feet, in the same line with the names of the points indicated. Beneath our copy of Colonel Bouchette's section, we have placed, by way of comparison, an outline of our "Section of the country along the due north line," which is on the margin of Map A; with a few corresponding elevations at different points, in order to illustrate more clearly the great disproportions between the two sections, and which is at once seen by the following table:

Col. Bouchette's Section.	The Section below.
The Monument.....	850
Park's.....	450
Meduxnakeag river.....	1,160
Presqu'ile river.....	1,000
Land S. of Mars Hill.....	1,180
Goosequick.....	1,470
River Des Chutes.....	1,350
Roostuc river.....	1,383
River St. John.....	1,470
Great Waggansis river.....	1,850
	2,065

elevation is only about 350. Reverting then to the passage quoted from the report of the Maine commissioners, where they say that the Metis is 531 feet higher than the Restigouche and its branches, and adding that height to the 2,050 feet allowed to the Waggansis, we have a total of 2,581 feet to represent what they have stated would be between two and three thousand feet.

We cannot doubt that this is the process by which they have arrived at their conclusion, and that their fallacious estimate is not the result of any observations made by themselves. To Colonel Bouchette's error of 1,700 feet they have added a conjectural elevation between the Restigouche and Lake Metis, equally erroneous, making the sum total of error equal to 2,150 feet. We add that it is quite impossible for any surveyors having but a slight practical acquaintance with the nature of inequalities prevailing over the surfaces of countries, not to have perceived, whilst passing over that part of the country which is the subject of these estimates, that such estimates would be rejected as altogether erroneous, when its elevation was properly examined. But in proof how small the elevation of the surface at this part is, the previous reports of the American surveyors themselves may be quoted. Mr. Johnson, in his report to the American agent, filed May 22, 1818, gives some description of the country, through which the North line was run from the St. John's River to the Waggansis, at the ninety-ninth mile. He says:—

"After rising the northwardly bank of the Saint John, we found the country mostly flat and swampy, until about the ninety-first mile, where a moderate ridge divides the waters of Falls River, from those of Grand River. North of Grand River, between the 93rd and 94th miles, is a ridge, which, though probably higher than any land we had passed over on the line, appears not to be of any considerable extent. From this to the 98th mile we passed through a large swamp, which gives rise to the Waggansis of the Grand River."

Such is the character of the country all the way from the St. John River to the north bank of the Quotawmakedgwic, a tributary of the Restigouche, being, in fact, a succession of swamps with occasional low ridges of limited extent; the apparent height of the country being increased to the eye of inexperienced persons, by the deep beds which the Restigouche and its branches, especially the Quotawmakedgwic, have worn. After the ascent of the hill on the north bank of this last stream, the country descends gently the whole way to the point where the exploratory North line strikes the stream which runs into Lake Metis. Now the point where the exploratory North line leaves the Saint John is only 300 feet above the level of the sea; it is evident, therefore, from what has been stated, that there is nothing on the whole line from thence to the Metis that can farther raise the general elevation of the country to any great extent; and as to the occasional ridges which have been alluded to, there is not one of them, even if it had any continuity, that has any connexion with that line of highlands claimed by the United States as the highlands of the treaty of 1783.

UNITED STATES.

(From the New York Herald.)

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.—The whole country is in a state of intense excitement in relation to the coming Presidential election in November. Nearly all the recent state elections have gone against Mr. Van Buren, and there is more than a probability to believe that General Harrison will be our next president. This will give an entirely new turn to business matters, and speculations of all kinds will once more flourish.

We are at peace with all our neighbours, except the Florida Indians; but there is great excitement in the south, on account of the interference of Great Britain in the social institutions of our southern planters. And out of this will grow a very serious question immediately after the Presidential election. Business of all kinds is gradually reviving; and those who were prudent during the years of speculation, are now doing a safe and profitable cash business. Every thing in the way of trade appears to be obtaining firmer and more extensive basis than ever.

Money is plenty in this city, but can only be obtained on the most unexceptionable security.

The crop of corn will be greater than ever was known in this country. The cotton crop is expected to be very large, although some good judges think it will fall short of last year.

Captain Talcott and Professor Renwick, the U. S. Commissioners appointed to explore the North-Eastern Boundary Line, have had a colleague assigned to them from the Topographical Bureau, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Professor Cleaveland. Major James Graham, who has lately been employed in the determination of the Boundary which divides us from Texas, is the officer appointed. The high personal and professional character of these three gentlemen will, it is hoped, enable them to lay a report before Congress which can be depended upon as a basis upon which to frame an arrangement between the two countries.

ASSASSINATION.—The Montreal Courier states that a few days since Lieutenant Farquhar, of Col. Dyer's corps of volunteers, was shot at Phillipsburg by Capt. McAdam, of the same corps, and died soon after his wound. They had quarrelled at mess the previous evening. The assassin was arrested.

LETT AGAIN.—Aqueduct blown up.—The aqueduct of the Welland Canal, which crosses Chippewa Creek, was blown up early on Saturday morning, with a terrible explosion, while two schooners were in it; one of which settled down in the chasm made by the explosion, the other fell over on her beam ends. The navigation is of course stopped, until the damages can be repaired. There is every reason to suppose that it was the work of the miscreant Lett, who recently made his escape while on his way to the residence of such scoundrels at Auburn.—Rochester Democrat.

The Bishop of Nancy, in France, a celebrated preacher, has arrived at Montreal.

There has been a most disastrous drought at Jamaica, and the coffee crops are nearly destroyed.

THE COLONIAL HERALD.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1840.

The Royal Mail steamship arrived at Halifax from Liverpool on Wednesday morning. The mail for this Island reached Pictou yesterday afternoon, from whence they were forwarded by the steamer *Cape Breton*, which vessel arrived here this morning, between one and two o'clock. The most prominent articles of news will be found in the annexed summary.

Halifax, Wednesday Morning, Sept. 16.

The fine Steamer *Britannia*, which paid us a visit so recently, arrived again this morning, in 11 and a half days from England, bringing 85 passengers.

His Excellency Lord Viscount FALKLAND, the future Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, with his Lady and Son, came passengers in her. His Excellency is welcome to our shores. He landed at 10 o'clock, under a salute, attended by a Guard of honour, and will, we understand, be sworn in to-morrow.

The *Britannia* brings papers to the 4th inst. We give below a summary of their contents. The Parliamentary Session had closed, and the Ministry stood firm. His Excellency the Governor General has been elevated to the Peerage, by the title of Baron Sydenham, "of Sydenham in Kent, and Toronto in Canada."

The Mails landed from the *Britannia*, were contained in 69 bags.

LONDON, Aug. 14.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

On Tuesday Her Majesty prorogued Parliament with the usual ceremonies. The Queen was accompanied by Prince Albert, who occupied a seat in the House of Lords erected for him on the left of his consort. The King and Queen of the Belgians occupied seats on Her Majesty's right. Her Majesty appeared to be in excellent health and spirits, and delivered the following speech with a clear and distinct voice:

My Lords and Gentlemen;

The state of public business enables me to close this Session of Parliament; and in releasing you from your attendance, I have to thank you for the care and attention with which you have discharged your important duties.

I continue to receive from Foreign Powers, assurances of their friendly disposition, and of their anxious desire for the maintenance of peace.

I congratulate you upon the termination of the civil war in Spain. The objects for which the quadruple engagements of 1834 were contracted having now been accomplished, I am in communication with the Queen of Spain, with a view to withdraw the naval force which, in pursuance of those engagements, I have hitherto stationed on the northern coast of Spain.

I am happy to inform you that the differences with the government of Naples, the grounds and causes of which have been laid before you, have been put into a train of adjustment by the friendly mediation of the King of the French.

I rejoice also to acquaint you that the Government of Portugal has made arrangements for satisfying certain just claims of some of my subjects, and for the payment of a sum due to this country under the stipulations of the convention of 1827.

I am engaged, in concert with the Emperor of Austria, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of Russia, and the Sultan, in measures intended to effect the permanent pacification of the Levant, to maintain the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire, and thereby afford additional security for the peace of Europe.

The violent injuries inflicted upon some of my subjects by the officers of the Emperor of China, and the indignities offered to an agent of my Crown, have compelled me to send to the coast of China a naval and military force, for the purpose of demanding reparation and redress.

I have gladly given my assent to the Act for the regulation of Municipal Corporations in Ireland.

I trust that the law which you have framed for further carrying into effect the reports of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners will have the beneficial effect of increasing the efficiency of the Established Church, and of better providing for the religious instruction of my people.

I have observed with much satisfaction the result of your deliberations on the subject of Canada. It will be my duty to execute the measures which you have adopted in such a manner as, without impairing the executive authority, may satisfy the best wishes of my subjects, and provide for the permanent welfare and security of my North American provinces.

The legislative bodies of Jamaica have applied themselves to the preparation of laws rendered necessary or expedient by the altered state of society. Some of these laws require revision and amendment, but I have every reason to expect cordial assistance from the Assembly of Jamaica, in the salutary work of improving the condition and elevating the character of the inhabitants of that colony. The conduct of the emancipated negroes throughout the West Indies has been remarkable for tranquil obedience to the law, and a peaceable demeanour in all the relations of social life.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons;

I thank you for the supplies which you have granted for the service of the year.

I lament that it should have been necessary to impose additional burthens upon my people; but I trust that the means which you have adopted for the purpose of meeting the exigencies of the public service are calculated to press with as little severity as possible upon all classes of the community.

My Lords and Gentlemen;

In returning to your respective counties, you will resume those duties which you perform so much to the public benefit and advantage. It is my anxious desire to maintain tranquillity at home and peace abroad. To these objects, so essential to the interests of this country, and to the general welfare of mankind, my efforts will be sincerely and unremittingly directed; and feeling assured of your co-operation and support, I humbly rely upon the superintending care and continued protection of Divine Providence.

(From the London Spectator, Aug. 8.)

Whilst France is engaged in manifesting her strength and spirit to foreign powers, a wild attempt to excite civil war has been made by Louis Napoleon, a maniac of the Bonaparte family. On Thursday morning, he made a descent, as it is termed, upon Boulogne, with about fifty followers; they marched to the barracks, and endeavoured to seduce the soldiers from their allegiance; the National Guards were called out, when the Prince and his followers were obliged to flee. They were fired at in their retreat, and several were killed in their attempts to reach the steamboat that took them to Boulogne from England. Some few forcibly took possession of horses, and tried to escape; but most of them were secured.

All the accounts from Rome agree that the health of the Pope is considerably improved. By order of his Highness, the treaty which is to be concluded between the Court of Rome and that of Portugal is that the latter is to bind itself in the most express manner to renounce the negro slave trade. This is a point which we know it would never concede to England.—Gazette of France.

INSURRECTION AT LISBON.—A second edition of the *Times* communicates the particulars of an insurrection which broke out in Lisbon on the night of the 11th and 12th instant. The movement was not directed against the Queen or the constitution, but the ministry; all immediate danger was averted by the firmness of the troops.

Her Majesty has appointed the Earl of Aboyné to be a Lord of the Bedchamber, in the place of Lord Falkland.

The 14th, 70th, 74th, and 89th Regiments, from Jamaica, are ordered for North America; the 64th Regiment is to relieve the 23rd at Nova Scotia, which relieves the 66th in Canada; 24th 32d, 34th, 65th, 66th, and 93d Regiments are to come home from America.

NAVAL PREPARATIONS.—Plymouth, Aug. 29.—The greatest activity prevails in the naval departments at this port (Plymouth). The *Calcutta*, 84, was commissioned yesterday by Capt. Sir S. Roberts, C. B. The *Bombay*, 84, is ordered to be masted without delay; she is expected to be commissioned immediately. The *Nile* 92; *Clarence*, 84; *Vengeance*, 84; and *Foudroyant*, 78, are reported as ready for speedy commissioning.

Steam Ship *Britannia*, Capt. Woodruffe, arrived here in gallant style, and thus completed the most extraordinary voyage on record. The *Britannia* has laid the foundation of her fame as a perfect clipper, by surpassing all other performances in ocean steam navigation.—*Liverpool Mail*, Aug. 15.

LONDON, Sept. 3.

Our extracts from the Paris Journals of Tuesday, and the accounts which we publish of the military preparations making by the Sublime Porte to co-operate with the Four Powers against Mehemet Ali, should the Viceroy persist in rejecting the ultimatum of the London Conference, are not likely to diminish the interest excited by the complicated state of the Eastern question. Not that the language of the French Press is more warlike than previously, or that there is anything very extraordinary in the military preparations of the Porte to take part in a struggle which involves the independence of Turkey. But every day which now passes in which nothing has been done towards the pacific settlement of this question—every arrival from Constantinople and Alexandria which brings no intelligence of a cessation of hostile preparations—every communication from Paris which represents the French Government as determined to stand aloof from the other Powers, instead of either frankly joining them, or assuming the functions of a mediator between the Pacha and the Four Powers, increases the interest with which we regard the probable result of an appeal to the sword.

SPAIN.—The port of Passages was evacuated on the 27th ult. by the British Marines, and the garrison replaced by the troops of the Queen of Spain.

GIBRALTAR, Aug. 15.—Our arsenal, which has been so long dormant, is suddenly roused into action, and extraordinary activity now prevails in that establishment. A frigate, after taking on board 15,000 muskets and some Artillerymen, put out to sea; its destination is not positively known, but it is supposed to be the Levant. To-day a ship of the line under the English colours passed the Straits, and pursued its course without stopping, to the Levant. Within these few days two English frigates also passed. It seems that England is sending all the naval force that can be spared to the Levant.

A despatch has been received from Lord John Russell, acknowledging the Address of the Highland Society of Prince Edward Island to Her Majesty, congratulating her on her marriage, and stating that Her Majesty had been pleased to receive the same very graciously.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY COURT.

The Court for the Trial of Common Assaults and Batteries, for Queen's County, met at the Court House, in Charlottetown, on Thursday the 11th inst, when the following, among other cases, were heard and determined:

The Queen vs. *John Carver* and *Richard Carver*, for an assault on Catherine Carver, (all of Lot 49),—offenders convicted, and fined Thirty Shillings each, with costs—or in default of payment, to be imprisoned for six weeks.

The Queen vs. *John M'Aulay*, of Charlottetown, for an assault on John Summers, of the same place. Offender fined Five Pounds, with costs—and in default of payment, to suffer imprisonment for two months.

The Queen (again) vs. *John M'Aulay*, for an assault on Ruth Summers, the wife of the said John Summers. This case was attended with circumstances of such atrocity, and consequences of so serious a nature, as to induce the Magistrates to send it to the Supreme Court for trial.

The Queen vs. *Neil M'Fadyen*, for an assault on Donald M'Arthur and Lauchlan M'Lean, (all of Elliot River.) Convicted, and fined Thirty Shillings, with costs, for each offence, or to suffer imprisonment for six weeks, in default of payment.

The Queen vs. *Patrick Sullivan*, of Cavendish, for an assault on James Reid, of the same place. Convicted, and fined Five Shillings, with Three Pounds eight shillings and six-pence costs!—or in default of payment, to be imprisoned six weeks.

Agreeably to requisition, a meeting called by the Sheriff of Queen's County, was held at the Court House on the evening of Tuesday last, for the purpose of considering the expediency of forming a Company in this Island to purchase a Steam Boat to ply between this port and Pictou, and if practicable, to Miramichi. The meeting was respectfully, although not very numerously, attended. The Honorable the Chief Justice having been called to the chair, several gentlemen addressed the meeting; all concurring as to the importance of the object in view, and agreeing generally as to the expediency of embracing Miramichi in the proposed plan, provided means could be raised for procuring a Boat of sufficient power to visit both Miramichi and Pictou during the week. But one opinion prevailed as to the absolute necessity of keeping up, at all events, a regular intercourse by steam with Pictou, in order to secure the advantages of a speedy communication with the parent country; but as no plan had been matured, a Committee was appointed to ascertain, as correctly as they could, the expense of procuring a steam boat of not less than fifty horses power, adequate to run twice a week between Charlottetown and Pictou; and also the additional outlay that would be necessary to provide a boat of sufficient power to make, in addition, one trip to Miramichi within the week, the expense of supporting the same, &c., and to report thereon to another public meeting to be called for the purpose. The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to make the necessary inquiries, viz.:—The Hon T. H. Haviland, Messrs. Young, F. Longworth, jun., Duncan, Coles, Tremain, Beers, E. Palmer and Capt. Swabey. Thanks were then voted to the Chairman, and the meeting dispersed.

A meeting of the Auxiliary Bible Society was held here on Thursday evening last, for the purpose of meeting the Rev. James Thomson, the Agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society. In order to accommodate as many persons as possible, the meeting was held at the Scotch Church, and was numerously and respectfully attended. A little before eight o'clock the Chair was taken by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, when Mr. Thomson was introduced to the meeting, and then proceeded to address them on the origin and progress of the Parent Institution; followed by an interesting narrative of his own travels in various countries during a period of twenty years, and upwards, and of what he had been enabled to accomplish as the Agent of the Society. His address occupied about two hours in the delivery, and was well calculated to rivet the attention of his audience, who seemed deeply impressed with the solemn nature of the subject.

We copy the following glowing description of the presentation of colours to the King's County Regiment of Highlanders, from the *Royal Gazette* of Tuesday last:—

PRESENTATION OF COLORS.—On the Eleventh of September, instant, this imposing, and in this Island, novel ceremony, occurred at St. Peter's. The Regiment being the King's County, or Castle Tioram Regiment of Highlanders, commanded by Lieut. Colonel R. C. Macdonald