



U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

F. M. Thorne, Superintendent.

State: *Maine.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. *1669.*

LOCALITY:

St. Croix River.

1887.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Chas M. Bucke

1889

Btley, 8.8.89

Descriptive Report

Of Topographical Sheet entitled "Right Bank
of St Croix River Me. from Devils Head to Mill
Cove"

The Topography of this sheet lies along the St Croix
River Me & consequently borders inland water, which
might properly be deemed an arm of Passamaquoddy
Bay.

The Country is Rocky: The rock formation consists
of primary granite & syenites; & of Silurian sandstone
& conglomerates. Here as in all places where the
Laurasian deposits appear, on the surface the hills are
low & rounded. This peculiarity is of course due to
the age & the consequent length of time during which
they have ~~and~~ been exposed to the eroding forces of nature.
The only noteworthy feature is the so called Red Granite,
which occurs some distance above Brooks Cove - This
rock is a Syenite, the red color of which is due to
impurities in the constituent feldspar. It is quarried,
cut, polished & shipped in large quantities from this
vicinity & makes one of our most beautiful building stones.
The evidences of glacial action are very marked; the
comparatively recent scratches on the hard compact rocks

do not appear, in many instances, to have suffered any obliteration since they were made.

Robbinston is the only village on that part of the sheet that I surveyed, viz from Brooks Cove to Mill Cove.

It is to a very slight degree a summer resort - The fishing is said to be good & it operates 2 Sardinia factories, No other occupation seems to be pursued by the people except some slight cultivation of the soil. The hay crops are remarkably abundant.

The shores generally terminate in cliffs down to high water. That portion of the beach between High & Low water is covered by sand & broken stone, while in numerous places there are outcroppings of solid bedges.

The proportion between the wooded area & the cleared area, I should judge, was two to one in favor of the former.

The original forest growth has in former years been cut off & worked up into lumber & there are very few of the original trees left - The second growth is however quite large but is probably not used for lumber owing to the fact that elsewhere the larger growth can be procured & manufactured more profitably.

The head of the river is at Calais, to which town a

steamboat plus from Fortport - A main Road follows the bank of the River between these two places. The roads are good, but it is seldom that the level stretches are of any length.

At Calais there is a fine water ^{power}, as also at Red Beach. Minor water powers occur but owing to the decline of the number of saw mills are but little used.

No ferds, that I know of, occur on the river nor any bridges until Calais is reached where a bridge connects that town with the Canadian town of St. Stephens.

Contouring the country is difficult for the reason that one contour, in many cases, has little influence in shaping the contiguous one.

The tide rises to about the extent of 18" & reaches Calais.

There are some few stone fences, but wooden fences prevail.

The river is only navigable as far as Calais.

The principal traffic on the river is lumber.

The trees are mixed, deciduous & evergreen the former predominating.

Respectfully

Chas. M. Bucher

Fort.