

1996

T. C. Mendenhall, Superintendent.

State; Maine

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Tape Sheet No. 1996

Kennebec River
Gardiner to Augusta

1890-1-

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Othman Porrey Asst



CO
OO
OO
7

Descriptive Report;
Topographical Sheet;
Kennebec River,
Gardiner to Augusta
Maine
1890-91.

The Country is comprised of rolling hills, cut-up by deep gulches. The formation is granite, with traces of magnetic iron, on the west-side of the river, in the vicinity of Gardiner and Hallenell,

The forest-trees, are Beech- Sugar Maple yellow-pine and Oak, Average height of forest-trees, forty feet.

The shade and ornamented trees are Elm- Silver Maple & Spruce, and abound in vast-numbers in the Cities of Augusta & Gardiner & the towns of Hallenell and Randolph, Apple and Pear orchards are numerous and prolific, one half the land is in grass, one quarter is under cultivation. one quarter

is needed.

The City of Augusta is located on both sides of the river at the head of tide water navigation, and is connected by an iron road bridge and an iron rail road bridge, it is the Capital of the State and has about 7000 inhabitants, one large Cotton mill - one large wood pulp mill - one Crockery factory - one Shoe factory - two large publishing houses and one saw mill, the products of these establishments together with the business of the wholesale and retail stores, comprise the principal trade of this city. The Main Central rail road passes through the city, the river is navigable, for flat-bottom boats, to Waterville, vessels drawing 7 feet - can come up to the city at mean low water, average rise and fall of ^{the} tide at Augusta = 4 feet, Augusta is connected with the

City of Gardiner by river navigation,
Steam and Electric rail road and
by wagon road, The wagon roads
are good - the grades in many
places are long and steep,

The bridges are strong sound
and frequent, Ferries are built
of stone - iron barked wire and
wood, The State Asylum for the
insane is located here on the
east-side of the river, A U. S. Arse-
nal is also located here on the same
side of the river,

The City of Gardiner, is located on
the West-side of the Kinnick, and
has a population of about 5000,
Two large wood pulp paper mills -
one wood cut factory two shoe factories -
one iron foundry - one machine shop -
one saw mill - one pottery factory -
one brick yard - & one sash factory
the products of these establishments -

together with the ice business and retail stores comprises the principal trade of the city. The Main Central rail road passes through this city. The river is navigable, vessels drawing 10 feet - can go up to the city - at mean low water, the average rise and fall of tides at Gardiner is 5 feet.

There is an old wooden trestle bridge, across the river at this place, connecting it with the town of Randolph. The bridge piers are built of wood, filled in with rock.

The wagon roads are good. The grades in many places are long and heavy. The fences are built of stone - iron - barbed wire & wood.

The Cobossecontee Stream passes through the center of this city, and empties into the Kennebec north of the river bridge. The water power of this stream is considered among the best in the State. The mills and

factories mentioned, are located on this stream and get their power from it,

The town of Hallonell is located on the west-side of the Kennebec two miles south of Augusta and has a population of about 1500, it is the oldest settlement on the upper Kennebec. The Hallonell Granite Co's quarry is located three miles north west of this town. this granite is considered the finest in the United States.

The products of this quarry, together with the Statuary marble (located in the town) one shoe factory - one Cotton mill - one glue factory - one Saw mill & two oil cloth factories & the ice business comprises the principal trade of this town.

The Maine Central rail road, and the electric rail road pass through this town. The river at this point is navigable, vessels drawing 8 feet - can come here at - mean low water, the mean

rise and fall of the tide is 4 feet;

The old bridge piers that stood for many years, in the river, between this town and Chelsea, were removed last summer, by the U.S. Engineers,

The town of Randolph is located on the east-side of the Kennebec opposite the City of Gardiner, and has a population of about 800, One shoe factory - one soap factory one saw mill and the ice business comprises the principal trade of this place. Randolph is connected by a narrow gauge rail road with the National Soldiers Home at Togus, six miles away. The wagon roads are good and in some places the grades are long and heavy,

The river is navigable at this point - and the same ^{depth} ~~amount~~ of water is found here as at Gardiner,

Ice Crop of the Kennebec
 The commercial ice fields of the
 Kennebec River extend from
 Augusta to Abbagadasset Point,
 a distance of twenty one miles. The stor-
 age Capacity of the ice houses, on the
 river - between these two points, amounts
 to 1,315,000 tons. The Capacity of the ice
 houses shown on this sheet -
 amounts to 263,000 tons.

Respectfully Submitted
 Stephen Horney,
 Asst. C. & G. Survey.

