U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

T. C. Mendenhall, Superintendent.

State: Maine

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.
Topo Sheet No. 1996

Locality:
Kennedy River
Gardiner to Augusta

1890?-

Chief of Party:
Oliver Torrey Bush
Descriptive Report,
Topographical Sheet,
Kennebec River,
Gardiner to Augusta,
Maine
1890-91.

The country is comprised of rolling hills, cut up by deep gullies. The formation is granite, with tracts of magnetic iron, on the west side of the river, in the vicinity of Gardiner and Hallendale.

The forest trees are Birch, Sugar Maple, Yellow Pine and Oak, Average height of forest trees, forty feet.

The shade and ornamental trees are Elm, Silver Maple, Spruce, and abound in oak-woods in the cities of Augusta, Gardiner, the towns of Hallendale and Randolph, Apple and Pear orchards are numerous and prolific, and half the land is in grass, one quarter is under cultivation. The growth
is ordered,

The City of Augusta is located on both sides of the river at the head of tide water navigation, and is con-
nected by an iron road bridge and an iron rail road bridge. It is the
capital of the State and has about
7,000 inhabitants; one large Cotton
Mill—one large flour mill, 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
Watersville, vessels drawing 7 feet—
can come up to the city. At mean
low water, average rise and fall
of tide at Augusta 4 feet—
Augusta is connected with the
City of Gardner by air navigation, steam and electric railroad and by wagon road. The wagon roads are good—the grades in many places are long and steep. The bridges are strong and sound and frequent. Houses are built of stone, wood, brick and brick, the State Asylum for the insane is located here on the east side of the river. At the Arsenal is also located here on the same side of the river.

The City of Gardner, is located on the west side of the Kansas, and has a population of about 5000. Two large woolen mills, paper mills, one bread-cut factory, two brick factories, one tin foundry, one machine shop, one saw-mill, one pottery factory, one brick yard—V one Lath factory the products of these establishments
together with the ice houses and retail stores comprise the principal trade of the city. The Maine Central railroad passes through this city. The river is navigable, vessels drawing 10 feet can go up to the city at high water, the average rise and fall of tide at Gardiner is 5 feet.

There is an old wooden frame 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 steep. The fences are built of stone-inset-tacked and wood.

The Cobbosseecontee Stream passes through the center of this city, and empties into the Kennebec River near 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 former from it.

The town of Hallowell is located on the west side of the Kennebec two miles south of Augusta, and has a population of about 1,500. It is the oldest settlement on the upper Kennebec. The Hallowell Granite Co. 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 flaxen mills (located in the town) one, three factories, one cotton mill, one gin, three factories, one sawmill, and two oil cloth factories, are the principal trade of this town. The Maine Central railroad, and the electric railroad pass through this town. The air at this point is navigable, vessels drawing 8 feet can come near 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 River, 2½ miles from Gardiner, and has a population of about 800. One the factory—two mills, factory one saw mill and the six turpentine campsites the principal trade of this place. Randolph is connected by a narrow-gauge rail road with the National Sleeping Home at Togus, six miles away. The wagon roads are good and this some places the grades are long and steep.
The river is navigable at this point and the same combination of water is found near as at Gardiner.
The commercial ice fields of the Kennebec River extend from Augusta to Aroostook Point, a distance of twenty-one miles. The storage capacity of the ice houses, on the river between these two points, amounts to 615,000 tons. The capacity of the ice houses shown on this sheet amounts to 4,263,000 tons.

Respectfully Submitted

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