

*Reserve on the Little South West Miramichi.*

This tract contains by estimation 10,000 acres, the whole of which is good land and very favourably situated. It is unequally divided by the Little South West, the smaller portion being on the North side of that River, and the larger portion to the Southward. The latter portion is again sub-divided by the highway which leads from the North West Miramichi up to the head of the Little South West. From being thus divided into three parts, it possesses great facilities for laying out farms with fronts on the Road, and on the River, which will render them very easy of access. I examined the whole of this extensive Reserve, accompanied by Lieutenant Rolland, and we visited nearly every one of the numerous settlers upon it, delivering them copies of the Proclamation and examining their improvements, a work of no small labour and fatigue. We were mounted upon horses belonging to the Indians, two of whom accompanied us as guides. The horses being accustomed to the woods carried us through the River repeatedly, as we had to cross it many times, and they also carried us over and through every sort of obstruction and difficulty without any accident.

This is the tract over which Barnaby Julien has for some years past exercised sole control, selling and leasing nearly the whole of it, and squandering the money, as stated in the first part of this report. There are a great number of persons on this Reserve, under lease, and paying rent, regularly, who have made extensive and valuable improvements. They have in general conceived, that if theirs was not a legal title, yet still it gave them a good and equitable claim upon the Government, and that any improvements they might make would be secured to them. They are in general far above the squatters on the last mentioned Tract both in character and circumstances. It was not a little curious to contrast these persons, who supposed they had fair title, with those who had not a shadow of claim, and to mark the difference between the lawless squatter and the honest industrious settler. The superior air and manner of the latter, the greater degree of comfort in their houses, and the respectable appearance of their families, were evident proofs of the advantages of living in obedience to the Laws, and of the great moral and social superiority of those who did so, over those who were leading a lawless life.

*Red Bank.*

The Reserve commences at Red Bank at the mouth of the Little South West. It is a high bank of red sand and loam (whence its name) round which the Little South West sweeps into the North West Miramichi with considerable rapidity. The rise and fall of tide at "Red Bank" is from three to five feet, and the North West is navigable to the Point for vessels of considerable burthen. On gaining the top of the Bank, we found a very pretty flat or plateau on which stand the premises of Barnaby Julien, and a neat little Chapel, quite new, and almost completely finished. A part of the plateau was in grain and potatoes belonging to Barnaby; the rest was a waste, on which were the wigwams of the few other Indian residents at this very pretty spot.

Barnaby expressed much anxiety to have this place secured to himself and his family, but it is by far too valuable for that. Its admirable position and manifest advantages, point it out most clearly, as a highly favorable situation for a town or village, which at the confluence of two extensive Rivers and at the head of the tide, would seem to be clearly needed, and by all means advisable. All persons appeared to agree in the opinion that no better spot could be selected, and I strongly recommend that "RED BANK" be reserved for a Village, and be laid out into suitable lots.

The Settlers on the Little South West have in general a great deal too much land, and the quantity should be reduced. Several of them have from three to four hundred acres, yet not satisfied they are grasping at more, and striving by every means in their power to extend their boundaries. A general survey of this reserve will be required, and a proper division and allotment of the land must be made before many of the questions arising among the several Petitioners can be fairly determined.

*Reserve on the North West Miramichi.*

From the Little South West, Lieutenant Rolland and myself proceeded up the North West to examine the extensive reserve on the East side of that River. This Tract commences a short distance above Wild Cat Brook, having a front on the River of about four and a half miles, and extending back from three to four miles. It contains by estimation eight thousand seven hundred acres. Much of this Tract is "burnt land," it having been swept over by the Great Fire of October 1825, which not only destroyed all the vegetable matter on the surface, but actually calcined the sand and gravel to such an extent as to leave the land almost incapable of bearing any thing but Blueberries. The greater portion of the lower part of this reserve presents a most barren and desolate appearance; on the upper part there is some growing timber, and there the soil is of very fair quality.

*The Sevogle Meadows.*

Opposite the reserve upon the North West, at the mouth of the Great Sevogle, there are two small Islands and a tract of Meadow Land of about 60 acres. Some years since this Meadow and the Islands were allotted to a branch of the Julien Tribe, who were furnished with a plan of the same by the Commissioner of Crown Lands, on which such allotment was stated.

*Reserves at Burnt Church Point.*

The two reserves at Burnt Church Point have already been mentioned in the first part of this Report. The reserve at the Point, containing 240 acres, is in the exclusive occupation of the Indians. The other reserve on the North side of Burnt Church River, containing 1400 acres, is in a wilderness state; the growth appeared rather small, consisting chiefly of trees of the fir tribe. The cleared land adjoining the reserve looked very well and appeared to produce good crops. There are no trespassers on this reserve, but to prevent disputes the boundaries ought to be defined, for which purpose a survey is needed.

*Reserve on the Tabusintac River.*

The great reserve on this River commences about seven miles from the mouth of the Harbour and extends five miles up stream, on both sides, with a breadth of three miles, thus forming an oblong of five by three miles, it contains by estimation nine thousand acres. The greater portion of this reserve appears by the plan to be on the North side of the River. It is all very fine land; the soil is in general heavier than what is usually found on this coast, and is admirable for tillage. The tide flows for some distance above the upper line of the reserve, every part of which is therefore accessible from the sea for all fishing vessels and small craft, which can enter from the Gulf into the harbour of Tabusintac. It is much to be regretted that so fine a tract of land, stretching along the tideway, possessing two River fronts, should so long have been allowed to remain in a state of wilderness, forming a complete barrier to the Settlement of the Country about it. The Road from Miramichi to Bathurst crosses the Tabusintac by a Bridge about thirty five miles from the sea. Timber is said to have been procured thirty miles further up above the Bridge, and thence floated down to the harbour. The land on the Tabusintac is generally of very good quality, particularly from the Bridge down to the reserve, yet there is not a single Settler upon it, although there are few Rivers in the Province which offer greater advantages or hold out stronger inducements to Settlers. If this reserve were divided into small allotments and offered for settlement on liberal terms, it would at once lead to the settlement of the whole River, and in due course of the adjoining Country.

*Wishart's Point.*

At this place which was formerly called M'Gray's Point, there is a reserve of ten acres. It is near the mouth of the River Tabusintac, and is now in possession of William Wishart, who has it all in good cultivation, and under fence. The Indians said Wishart's house stood on their land; this was denied, but can easily be determined by survey. Wishart expressed his readiness to give up this tract whenever it was called for, after he got off his crop. He has never paid rent.

*Ferry Point.*

At this Point, which is below Wishart's, and still near to the sea, there is a reserve of twenty five acres now unoccupied. It is a capital place for shooting wild-fowl, and would make an excellent fishing station, as Cod and other fish abound at a short distance from it to seaward. Lobsters and Oysters are here abundant, and of very good quality. Haddock were so plentiful that the Indians speared them from the canoes in passing along the coast. We obtained Cod from a fishing boat, receiving two good fish for every fig of tobacco we could furnish.

*Reserve on Pokemouch River.*

This reserve is on the south side of the River, and begins about seven miles from the sea, at the Wagan-chiche (Little Knife) Brook, and extends from thence up stream three miles, with a depth of about a mile and a half. It contains by estimation, two thousand six hundred acres, the whole of which appears to be of very fair quality, and fit for cultivation.

*Reserve on the River Nepisiguit.*

This Reserve is to contain one thousand acres on both sides the Nepisiguit, between the Pabineau and "the Strong Waters." It was defined by a minute of Council in April last, and is under survey by Mr. McNeil, D. L. S., who had not completed the work when I left Bathurst in October. The land was said to be of very inferior quality, and the only part of it fit for cultivation, was the piece occupied by Prisque Wyoush, who made some attempts at farming. I had not an opportunity of visiting this reserve, owing to the very boisterous weather and heavy rain during my stay at Bathurst. There are no trespassers upon it. I was told that the timber had been cut off long since.