

The western boundary of that Province was so long ago as the year 1621, commonly called and known by the name of the River St. Croix.

The natural inference from this circumstance is that at that time no other river in that part of the Country was known by the same name, or at least that this river was eminently known and distinguished by that name from its superiority in size & consequence to any other of the same name.

It would be easy to shew, and will not be denied, that in the French and English Histories and accounts of this Country and in the public Transactions, Grants, Documents & Acts of State of both Nations the river Sainte Croix is very frequently mentioned; that in all these instances, one river only has been contemplated and referred to under that name, from the time it was first known, as the name of a River, and that one & the same river has since that time been so called and distinguished, and was intended under that name in the Treaty of peace

(19) in 1783, that this name has been as eminently & invariably attached to this river as the names of St. John and St. Lawrence have been attached to the rivers that re-

spectively bear those names, and has been uniformly and universally known as a part of the western boundary of the Province of Nova Scotia, since the date of the Patent to Sir William Alexander.

We are to look then to some time prior to the date of this Patent for the origin of this name, and a description of the river to which it was given, as at that time, the river, wherever it may be situated, was commonly called and known by that name.

In making this inquiry we have fortunately such marks to steer by and such minute descriptions to guide us as are very rarely to be met with in researches of this kind, such as will lead us to infallible certainty in our conclusions, unless the face of nature has been changed, and mountains, bays, rivers and Islands ^{have} by some unheard of convulsion, ~~been~~ been removed or destroyed.

Until the year 1604, we find no mention of the river St. Croix. In that year this (20) name was given to it by the French. The following account of the origin of this name is taken from Lescarbot's History & inserted in the Memorials of the English & French