

treaty, and especially as to the boundaries of the United States, there existed great difference of opinion.¹ The British Government remonstrated with them, on their infringement of the fourth, fifth, sixth and other articles of the treaty, in consequence of which they continued to retain possession of the posts on the American side of the great lakes, and as those posts gave their possessors a decided influence over the Indian tribes, it produced no inconsiderable degree of irritation amongst the subjects of the United States, who charged the British with encroachments on the *Eastern Frontiers* of their territory; for on that side, they stated the river *St. Croix*, from its source to its mouth, in the bay of *Passamaquoddy*, to be the *real* boundary between the two nations. Three rivers of that name empty themselves into that bay. The Americans *claimed* the *most eastern* as the *real* *St. Croix*; yet settlements were actually made under the authority of the governors of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to the middle river, and the town of *St. Andrew* was established on its banks;² but the cause of the greatest disquiet was, as they alleged, the commercial system pursued by Great Britain, when by her acknowledgment of the Independence of America, they became a distinct and independent State. For consistently with the treaties, then in existence between Great Britain and other powers, and mindful of her own safety as a Maritime State, the subjects of the United States could not be put on a *more favored* footing with respect to navigation and trade, than those nations with whom such treaties existed; though there were, certainly, discriminations introduced *highly favorable*³ to the United States,

¹ Mr. Mackenzie in his *History of the Fur Trade*, quarto edition, p. 58, observes,—

“That *Lake du Bois* is rendered remarkable in consequence of the *Americans* having named it, as the *spot* from which a line of boundary between them and *British America* was to run west, until it struck the *Mississippi*, which, however, *can never happen*, as the north west part of the *Lake du Bois* is in latitude 49, 37 north, longitude 94, 31 west, and the northernmost branch of the source of the *Mississippi* is in latitude 47, 38 north, and longitude 95, 6 west, ascertained by Mr. Thomson, astronomer to the *North West Company*, who was sent expressly for that purpose, in the spring of 1798. He in the same year determined the northern bend of the *Mississouri* to be in latitude 47, 32 north, and longitude 101, 25 west, and according to the Indian accounts, it runs to the south of west, so that if the *Mississouri* were even to be considered as the *Mississippi*, no western line could strike it!”

See also Mr. Burke's observations on the competency of the persons appointed to negotiate the *first treaty* with America, which he styled “a *Geographical Treaty*,” in the debate of the 7th March, 1783.

² Mr. Justice Marshall's *Life of General Washington*, London edition.

³ Mr. Smith, of South Carolina, in a debate in Congress on the resolutions, which were attempted to be passed, adverse to the trade of Great Britain, observed—“That the commercial system of Great Britain towards the Uni-

which, ability, treaties. Subst. fine the except fined a purpose sioners, the river forming on the between which, were ce fortunat the Am tion, tha ter of th brought respectin accordin to ratify The r in his M interests wick, it conceded late mini

ted States crimination better situ article of Washington. See the bill for the Navigation in the same edition, p. 2. See the 25th of the ed. see Mr. Me natives of