

And that, therefore, the ancient delimitation of the British Provinces does not either afford the basis of a decision.

That the longitude of the north-west angle of Nova Scotia, which ought to coincide with that of the source of the St. Croix River, was determined only by the Declaration of 1798, which indicated that river.

That the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation of 1794 alludes to the doubt which had arisen with respect to the River St. Croix, and that the first instructions of the Congress, at the time of the negotiations which resulted in the Treaty of 1783, locate the said angle at the source of the River St. John.

That the latitude of that angle is upon the banks of the St. Lawrence, according to Mitchell's Map, which is acknowledged to have regulated the combined and official labours of the negotiators of the Treaty of 1783, whereas, agreeably to the delimitation of the Government of Quebec, it is to be looked for at the highlands which divide the rivers that empty themselves into the River St. Lawrence from those which fall into the sea.

That the nature of the ground east of the before-mentioned angle not having been indicated by the Treaty of 1783, no argument can be drawn from it to locate that angle at one place in preference to another:

That, at all events, if it were deemed proper to place it nearer to the source of the River St. Croix, and look for it at Mars Hill, for instance, it would be so much the more possible that the boundary of New Brunswick drawn thence north-eastwardly would give to that province several north-west angles, situated farther north and east, according to their greater remoteness from Mars Hill; the number of degrees of the angle referred to in the treaty has not been mentioned.

That, consequently, the north-west angle of Nova Scotia, here alluded to, having been unknown in 1783, and the Treaty of Ghent having again declared it to be unascertained, the mention of that historical angle in the Treaty of 1783 is to be considered as a petition of principle (*petition de principe*), affording no basis for a decision, whereas, if considered as a topographical point, having reference to the definition, namely, "that angle which is formed by a line drawn due north from the source of St. Croix River to the highlands," it forms simply the extremity of the line along the said highlands, which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the River St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean,—an extremity which a reference to the north-west angle of Nova Scotia does not contribute to ascertain, and which still remaining itself to be found, cannot lead to the discovery of the line which it is to terminate.

Lastly, that the arguments deduced from the rights of sovereignty exercised over the fier of Madawaska and over the Madawaska settlement—even admitting that such exercise were sufficiently proved—cannot decide the question, for the reason that those two settlements only embrace a portion of the territory in dispute, and that the high interested parties have acknowledged the country lying between the two lines respectively claimed by them as constituting a subject of contestation, and that, therefore, possession cannot be considered as derogating from the right, and that if the ancient delimitation of the province be set aside, which is adduced in support of the line claimed at the north of the River St. John, and especially that which is mentioned in the Proclamation of 1763 and in the Quebec Act of 1774, no argument can be