

the line, in order to reach the Connecticut River, must of necessity run along the lofty Highlands which divide the Chaudière from the Kennebec and the Penobscot. It is manifest, therefore, that if the Treaty had directed the boundary to begin at the head of the Connecticut River, which is a known point, and to run along the Highlands in a north-easterly direction towards the Bay of Chaleurs, as described in the Royal Proclamation of 1763, the question would have been settled upon the first attempt.

And again, with respect to the American assertion that the north-west angle of Nova Scotia had always been a known and determined point, it is worthy of remark, that the proposition as originally made by the American Commissioners, and as provisionally agreed to by Mr. Oswald, the English Commissioner at Paris, the 8th of October, 1782, was in the following words:—

“The said States are bounded, north, by a line to be drawn *from the north-west angle of Nova Scotia*, along the Highlands which divide those rivers which empty themselves into the River St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean, to the north-westernmost head of Connecticut River,” &c.

If then the British Government had ratified Mr. Oswald’s Act, the proposition of the American Commissioners to make the south-westernmost sources of the River St. John the *north-west angle of Nova Scotia*, would have received the sanction of a Treaty; and, in fact, the II<sup>nd</sup> Article of the Treaty as ratified, differs in nothing from the proposition just cited, except in the insertion of the following words, immediately after “Nova Scotia,”—

“Viz., *that angle which is formed by a line drawn due north from the source of the St. Croix River to the Highlands.*”

So that we have the Americans *declaring* in 1782, that the north-west angle of Nova Scotia was at the sources of the St. John, while they now contend that this same angle has always been near the sources of the Metis. Yet these two points lie at a distance of 176 miles from each other.

But it can be proved even by one of the highest authorities amongst the Americans themselves, that the assertion, that the north-west angle of Nova Scotia is a known and determined point, is contrary to the fact. Mr. Sullivan, one of the most distinguished men the United States have produced, a Governor of the State of Massachusetts, and author of the “History of the District of Maine,” was selected on account of his admitted competency to the task, to be agent on the part of the United States, to the Commission constituted under the Treaty of 1794, to decide which was the true River St. Croix. Mr. Sullivan, in his argument before the Commission, says:—

Opinion of the American Statesman, Mr. Sullivan, that the north-west angle of the Treaty had no existence.

“The Treaty contemplates a line running on the Highlands so as to divide the rivers which run into the St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean; but whether this is to be a direct or crooked line is not ascertained in the Treaty. If it divide those rivers as above expressed, there can be no pretence of its being a straight line. It is either in its general inclination or in its direct course to run to the north-westernmost head of Connecticut River. *There can be no angle existing, as known to any man, until those lines are formed, for the point of their inclination is but a mathematical deduction from a perfect recognition of the lines themselves.*”

“We find no place for this angle, prior to the Treaty of 1783, and are now left to form it by running the lines in that Treaty agreed upon.

“In order to determine that place as nearly as could be done, it was agreed that a certain river, which had heretofore been known and called by the name of the River St. Croix, and which had been deemed and received as the eastern boundary of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, should be taken as a part of the boundary, and that to fix a line from the source of that river to the Highlands, both as a line for the Government of Massachusetts and Nova Scotia, it should run due north; and that the limitation of that line should be in what should ultimately be found, *when the country should be explored, to be the Highlands.*

“The Highlands had, in the year 1763, been made the boundary of Quebec, or the Lower Canada boundary, *but where the boundaries or Highlands are, is yet resting on the wing of imagination.*

“We are as entire strangers to the Highlands, and the sources of the rivers on either side of them, as we are to the sources of the Nile. There can