

S
MESSAGE

FROM

THE GOVERNOR, AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE,
OF MAINE,

In relation to the northeastern boundary of that State.

MAY 7, 1838.

Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

I herewith communicate for your consideration a communication addressed to me by the Secretary of State of the United States, with the correspondence therein referred to, in reference to the northeastern boundary. This communication is made by request of the President of the United States; and, in compliance with his suggestion, I ask your careful and deliberate attention to the facts and propositions therein contained. The duty devolving upon me would, perhaps, be performed by the simple communication of these documents, without any remarks or comments of my own; but this subject, always interesting to Maine, has become more so by this direct application, on the part of the President of the United States, for the expression of the wishes and the will of this State in reference to the adjustment of this long pending question; and feeling a deep interest, personally and officially, in every thing that relates to it, and anxious, mainly, that the rights and honor of Maine should not be jeopardized or impaired, I feel it to be a duty which I owe to the people who have assigned me my part of responsibility, to speak my honest opinions and views, plainly and unreservedly, upon the grave matters now submitted to you. I ask for my views no other weight or influence than such as their intrinsic value may entitle them to; and I desire only to be regarded as connected with you in guarding, with watchful care, the great interests intrusted to us, and doing my duty, in this important crisis, according to my best judgment. If my views are erroneous, or if I am, in your opinion, unnecessarily strict or severe in my judgment of intentions, or too limited in my suggestions of policy, I trust to you to correct or to overrule me. I assume no right to dictate or control your action.

In the communication from Mr. Forsyth, in connexion with a very lucid and interesting history of the negotiations between the two Governments, we are informed that the discussions between the Federal Government and that of Great Britain have arrived at a stage in which the President thinks it due to the State of Maine, and necessary to the intelligent action of the
Blair & Rives, printers.