

"Second, complains of the delay of the General Government of the United States to prosecute a system of defences for the country, and to make preparations for war which may not be very remote, and to which the clearest dictates of patriotism and common prudence urge."

"Third, That the peculiarly exposed condition of Maine, having a long line of sea coast, calls for the immediate attention of the General Government.

"Fourth, that the British troops quartered upon our territory cannot, consistently with the national honor, be permitted to remain, and that, unless voluntarily withdrawn, it will be the duty of the General Government to expel them by force."

"Fifth, that if during the Session of Congress, no reply should be made by the British Government to a proposition of the General Government (supposed to have been submitted in July last), it will be the imperative duty of our Government to take military possession of the territory and maintain it."

"Sixth, that while a reasonable prospect remains that the General Government will enforce the rights of Maine by taking military possession of the whole territory in dispute, in case the attempt to effect an amicable settlement of the line, should be unsuccessful, this State will forbear to take such possession herself, and no longer."

No 31.

Viscount Palmerston to Mr. Fox.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 14, 1840.

IN my despatch of the 19th of February last, I instructed you to acquaint the Government of the United States, that Her Majesty's Government were only waiting for the detailed Report which Colonel Mudge and Mr. Featherstonhaugh were then preparing, in order to send to the United States an answer to their last communication about the Boundary Question. I had hoped that the Report would have been completed by this time, and that I might have been enabled to give you instructions thereupon by the present steamer, but it has not yet been delivered in. I have reason to expect, however, that the Report will be ready in the course of a week, when it will be immediately taken into consideration by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 32.

Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received April 16, 1840.)

(Extract.)

Washington, March 30, 1840.

THE last document transmitted to Her Majesty's Government in my despatch of the 17th instant, belonging to the series of correspondence that has passed between the United States Government and myself, in relation to the affairs of the disputed territory, was an official note presented by me to Mr. Forsyth on the 13th instant, in conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 19th of February.

I formally protested anew in that note against the acts of aggression of the State of Maine, which, so far from being disproved or discontinued, are, on the contrary, persisted in and avowed; and I announced the line of conduct which, under these circumstances, Her Majesty's Government have resolved to pursue for the protection of Her Majesty's rights, pending the negotiation of the Boundary Question.

I have the honour, in the present despatch, to inclose the copy of a detailed answer to the above note, addressed to me by Mr. Forsyth on the 25th instant, together with the copy of another short official note in reply, which, after receiving Mr. Forsyth's answer, I presented to him on the 26th.