

any other boundary that would have been a compromise between conflicting claims. All the other points in controversy were satisfactorily settled, and both the negotiators of the treaty earned the gratitude of the people of both countries. I have already given a quotation from Sir Robert Peel's speech, in which he referred to Mr. Webster in most complimentary terms. The picture of Lord Ashburton is exhibited at Washington among those entitled to the gratitude of the American people. I can readily conceive that those who have written of him in the most contemptuous terms, would cite this as a proof that he had earned this gratitude at the cost of his own country, but I have already noticed that the thanks of Parliament were voted to him for his eminent services, a compliment which has been rarely paid to a civilian. I cannot take leave of this branch of my subject without drawing your attention to the celebrated map discovered in the Archives at Paris by Mr. Jared Sparks, and which was said to have been enclosed by the Count de Vergennes, the French Minister, to Dr. Franklin, on the 6th Dec., 1782, with a request that he would mark on it the boundary which had been agreed to, and which was returned by Dr. Franklin with a strong red line indicating the limits of the United States as settled in the preliminaries between the British and American plenipotentiaries.

It appears that Mr. Sparks discovered this map, as well as Dr. Franklin's note to the Count de Vergennes, and that he commended both to the authorities at Washington with the following remark: "In short, it is exactly the line now contended for by Great Britain, except that it concedes more than is claimed by her. It is evident that the line from the St. Croix to the Canadian Highlands is intended to exclude 'all the waters running into the St. John.' I have no reason to doubt that such a map was discovered, and such a statement made by Mr. Sparks, and both Mr. Dent and Mr. Ramsay have arrived at a most unfavourable conclusion as to the part taken by Mr. Webster in concealing from Lord Ashburton the existence of the map, which he subsequently used to influence the United States Senate to ratify the treaty, which that body was very unwilling to do. Mr. Sandford Fleming has not noticed the map, but Col. Coffin, who holds as strong opinions in favor of the British claim as Mr. Dent and Mr. Ramsay, differs with them materially as to Mr. Webster's duty under the circumstances. Col. Coffin thus wrote in 1876, of the map: "It afforded strong presumption, but not absolute proof, of the 'correctness of our claims under the treaty—claims, however, which

"we had abandoned when we abandoned the treaty itself, and