

"Beginning at the monument at the source of the River St. Croix, as designated and agreed to by the Commissioners under the 5th Article of the Treaty of 1794 between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States; thence north, following the exploring line run and marked by the surveyors of the two Governments in the years 1817 and 1818, under the Fifth Article of the Treaty of Ghent, to its intersection with the River St. John, and to the middle of the channel thereof."

Her Majesty's Government do not apprehend that this part of the Line of Boundary will meet with much difficulty in the execution. Many parts of the Line, as marked in 1817, 1818, are, it is believed, perfectly well known, and traceable without trouble; and although in some parts the posts, or other marks which were placed by the Commissioners at that time along the exploring line surveyed by them, may have been partially removed, or effaced, or overgrown, yet it is believed that a sufficient knowledge of the line which they designated may be readily attained.

The grants of lands made of late years by the Government of Maine to its citizens along that assumed frontier, and which were based on the received line in question, will much tend to elucidate its general direction. And the settlements made also on the British side of the same line by the inhabitants of New Brunswick will equally facilitate the acquirement of the desired knowledge.

You will make every effort to ascertain with as much accuracy as may be attainable, the exact direction of the old line explored and marked out by the joint Commissioners in 1817, 1818; and having satisfied yourself of the general correctness of the information which you may have collected, it will be requisite that, in conjunction with the United States' Commissioner, you should give orders for running and marking out the same line afresh in such manner as you shall jointly deem expedient.

The monument at the source of the St. Croix being a point already established, it will not be necessary, in the first instance, to determine afresh its precise astronomical position. That operation, if required at all, may at all events be reserved until the return of the surveyors from tracing the western parts of the Boundary Line.

The point of intersection of the north line, as assumed by the Treaty, with the River St. John, should be at once accurately ascertained and laid down. But, as it is obvious that no mark denoting the point of intersection can be conveniently placed in the middle of the river, it will be necessary that two corresponding marks should be placed to designate that point, the one on the right and the other on the left bank of the river.

2. I now proceed to the second section above enumerated, namely, that part of the Line of Boundary from the above-named point of intersection to the outlet of the lake called in the Treaty Pohenagamook.

The Treaty provides that this part of the Boundary shall be laid down as follows:

"Thence" (*i. e.*, from the point of intersection of the north line with the St. John's) "up the middle of the main channel of the River St. John to the mouth of the River St. Francis; thence, up the middle of the channel of the River St. Francis, and of the lakes through which it flows, to the outlet of the Lake Pohenagamook."

The main channel of a river is, necessarily, that channel through which the main body of its waters flows. This channel will, it is presumed, be generally ascertainable without much difficulty in most parts of the River St. John. Where, however, it is not clearly discernible, or where there are two or more channels, divided by islands, of nearly equal volume, the selection must be made, and the point determined, between the Commissioners by mutual agreement, and on the grounds of fair compromise.

Along the whole of the channel so determined the Line of Boundary must be traced and laid down in the maps which will be prepared according to the provision of Article VI of the Treaty of Washington.

It is of less consequence that this line should be run with punctilious