

avoided; and unless the Boundary Question should be soon settled, I apprehend that the people of Maine will again attribute the delay, as they have done on former occasions of excitement, to the British Government, and which is calculated to lead to excesses in a population so little amenable to authority.

I am bound also to observe to your Lordship, that a strong feeling exists not only amongst the Acadian settlers at Madawaska, but generally throughout the province, as to the inefficacy of the concessions made to the Americans, and the undue advantage they have taken of the conciliatory disposition manifested towards them; and I am strongly of opinion, that if the negotiations are likely to be protracted, the employment of the regular troops of both States would be a measure of wise precaution, and probably the only one that would effectually guard against a collision.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

P.S.—I inclose to your Lordship the extract of a letter from M. Langevin, the Catholic priest at Madawaska, to Sir John Harvey, which may be considered to convey the sentiments of the people with whom he is connected.

(Signed) W. M. G. C.

Extract of a Letter from M. Langevin to Sir John Harvey.

Madawaska, 15 Jwin, 1841.

QUANT aux affaires politiques, nous vivons tantôt dans l'espérance et tantôt dans la crainte de ce qui va se passer par rapport à la ligne; mais adviennne ce que pourra, nous aimons mieux la guerre que de céder un pouce de terrain de Madawaska aux Américains.

Inclosure 8 in No. 28.

Lord Sydenham to Mr. Fox.

Sir, *Government House, Kingston, June 8, 1841.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, the copy of a despatch addressed to me by the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, on the 11th ultimo, together with a copy of my despatch to him of the 21st May, and an extract of my answer to his present despatch.

I trust that the further information which it was expected to obtain, and in anticipation of which I have hitherto delayed to address you, may show that some mistake exists as to the intentions of the people of Maine. Judging, however, from their former proceedings, it is but too probable that they are truly represented, and I therefore deem it expedient to possess you of these despatches, in order that you may, if possible, avail yourself of an opportunity to draw the attention, unofficially, of the United States' Government to the rumours which prevail of the intentions of Maine. They may perhaps, thus forewarned, be able to arrest such proceedings, should they be really meditated, and avert the necessity of any formal application, which would become indispensable under these circumstances.

They will readily perceive that Great Britain cannot acquiesce in any further encroachments by the State of Maine, or any further interference with Her Majesty's subjects on the banks of the St. John's. If, indeed, the people of Maine are permitted to extend their settlements in the Disputed Territory, as they have hitherto done, the claims of Great Britain will be virtually decided without the intervention of either Government; and against this result we are bound to take effectual precautions.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) SYDENHAM.