

United States, and on the part of the State of Maine, are to be appointed in order to negotiate as to an indemnity to be given by the former to the latter, for the loss which she alleges that she would suffer by her acceptance of the Netherlands arbitration. That the result of this commission is to be laid before the legislature for their ultimate acceptance or rejection.

I immediately asked the Secretary of State what degree of credit I was to attach to this report; Mr. Livingston told me that the whole question was still under discussion, but that he hoped in a very short time to be enabled to transmit to me the different papers connected therewith, and to give such an answer to my note as should be satisfactory.

No. 14.

Charles Bankhead, Esq. to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received July 13.)

My Lord,

Washington, June 13, 1832.

I HAVE heretofore delayed the fulfilment of the instructions which I had the honour of receiving from your Lordship, in your despatch of October 14, of last year, respecting the ulterior views which His Majesty's Government might entertain, when the question of boundary, as awarded by the King of the Netherlands, should have been fully acquiesced in by the United States.

I did so, because the Senate in its executive capacity had shewn no disposition to take up the question, and I thought that the slightest intimation on my part, as to the possibility of future negotiation, would, perhaps, endanger the favourable decision of the Senate upon the original question, which decision, fully and unconditionally declared, was to *precede* any other step which might be taken thereupon. However, during the last two days, I learnt that the whole boundary question has been under the consideration of the Senate; and Mr. Livingston informed me, that he hoped very soon to be able to communicate to His Majesty's Government the decision of the United States upon it. I thought that this was a proper moment, informally, to intimate to the Secretary of State that His Majesty's Government might not be indisposed to enter into explanations with this Government with a view to effect some modifications by reciprocal exchange and concession, but that the full and unconditional acceptance of the award by this country must precede any such intention on the part of Great Britain.

Mr. Livingston asked me (and he did so informally) whether I was authorized to make or to receive any overture *before* the President had signified his assent to the award; I replied, of course, in the negative.

I hope that your Lordship will not consider that I have exceeded the discretionary power with which you invested me in bringing forward, at this moment, the possibility of a future arrangement being effected relative to the north-east boundary.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES BANKHEAD.

Viscount Palmerston.

§c. §c. §c.

No. 15.

Charles Bankhead, Esq., to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 9.)

(Extract.)

Washington, July 13, 1832.

IT is with great regret that I have to announce to your Lordship, that the Senate has refused to sanction the acquiescence, on the part of the President of the United States, to the award of the King of the Netherlands on the disputed territory.

The subject was submitted to that body early in the session, and accompanied by the earnest wish of the President, that the award should be agreed to. The message was referred to the committee on foreign relations who reported their opinion that the President's views should be acceded to. A motion was then made that the votes of *two thirds* of the Senate should be considered necessary to pronounce a final opinion. This enabled the opponents of the measure to defeat the views of the Government, and finally, the Senate withheld their assent to the award of His Majesty, and recommended