

State and myself, and which correspondence was forwarded to your Lordship in my despatch, No. 14, of the 28th ultimo.

Although the President's message is dated the 27th of June, it was not transmitted to Congress until the Monday following, the 29th of the month, the next day after the date of my despatch No. 14.

The message expresses, in satisfactory terms, the hope and expectation entertained by the President, of an amicable settlement of the Boundary Question; and it calls for the assistance of Congress, to enable the President to effect a new preparatory survey, by American Commissioners, of those parts of the disputed territory which are especially treated of in the report of the British Commissioners, Colonel Mudge and Mr. Featherstonhaugh. If Congress assent to this proposal, I presume that the preparatory survey, by American Commissioners, will be made, or at least, that it will be commenced, during the present season.

I have been surprised to find, that although the President refers in his message to the contents of the Report of the British Commissioners, (two copies of which Report, as well as of the Map, accompanied my note to the United States' Secretary of State of the 22nd ultimo,) yet neither the Report itself nor the Map have been officially communicated to Congress. It appears, from statements made by Mr. Buchanan, Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the Senate, during two short discussions which have taken place in the Senate subsequently to the transmission of the message, namely, on the 1st and 3rd of this month, (reports of which discussions are herewith inclosed,) that one copy of the Report and one copy of the Map have been communicated by the President, in a confidential form, to the Committee of Foreign Affairs, but not publicly to Congress. Mr. Ruggles, the opposition Senator from Maine, has moved for the official production of the Report: his motion will be discussed in the Senate to-morrow; it seems probable that it will be resisted by Mr. Buchanan and the administration party. Under these circumstances, I have not yet thought myself authorized to distribute among the members of Congress the copies of the Commissioners' Report and Map which were furnished to me for that purpose by your Lordship. Objections would be raised, perhaps technically just, against my doing so; and, moreover, it would not be prudent that I should run any risk of appearing to solicit readers for the British Report amongst the members of Congress. A desire apparently prevails with the United States Government to conceal the Report; the effect will be, to cause it to be sought after and read with great avidity when it arrives in print in the English newspapers, which I presume will happen by the next steam-packet.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) H. S. FOX.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

*President's Message to Congress.*

#### NORTH-EASTERN BOUNDARY.

*To the Senate:—*

THE importance of the subject to the tranquillity of our country makes it proper that I should communicate to the Senate, in addition to the information heretofore transmitted in reply to their resolution of the 17th of January last, the copy of a letter just received from Mr. Fox, announcing the determination of the British Government to consent to the principles of our last proposition for the settlement of the question of the North-Eastern Boundary, with a copy of the answer made to it by the Secretary of State. I cannot doubt that, with the sincere disposition which actuates both Governments to prevent any other than an amicable termination of the controversy, it will be found practicable so to arrange the details of a Conventional agreement on the principles alluded to as to effect that object.