

and fifty thousand dollars in compensation for claims, real or imaginary.

An impression has long prevailed in Canada that the United States had the best of the bargain. The growth of this delusion is the most curious in the history of diplomacy, and formal expression was given to it as late as 1907 by the then Premier of Canada, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The delusion arose out of the measures which Daniel Webster thought necessary to employ to secure the consent of Congress to the Treaty. He made the best of the case, and even produced maps upon which certain lines had been drawn, to show that the Americans had received to the uttermost all that they had claimed. Unfortunately his political expedient was overheard in Canada, and it is only within the last ten years that the nature of it was discovered, and the essential justice of the award admitted.

For the sake of completeness the Alaska Award of Oct. 20th, 1903, may be cited to demonstrate how suddenly a cause of difference may arise between the two countries. The discovery of gold in the Yukon gave an importance, much overestimated at the time, to a definition of the boundary between Canada and Alaska. The issue was simple, and yet insoluble by any rigid rules. There was a discrepancy between the maps and the text of the narrative by which the boundary was defined. If the maps were to govern the possession of the islands, they ought to go to the United States; if the treaty were "tried by the text," they ought to go to England. The result was a compromise which did not, and could not, please the extremists on either side. That, indeed, is the justification of the award.

The matters yet in dispute between Canada and the United States are unimportant in themselves, and of so trivial a nature that it is hard to imagine that they might conceivably lead to hostility. They concern for the most part rivers and lakes in which certain commercial considerations are involved, such as water power, fisheries, and navigation. It would be