

indicates the point where the 45° of north latitude strikes the river; thence running into the river, on a line at right angles to the southern shore, to a point 100 yards south of the opposite island, called Cornwall Island; thence turning westerly, and passing around the southern and western sides of said island, keeping 100 yards distance therefrom, and following the curvatures of its shores to a point opposite to the northwestern corner of said island; thence to and along the middle of the main river until it approaches the eastern extremity of Barnhart's Island; thence northerly along the channel which divides the last mentioned island from the Canada shore, keeping 100 yards distant from the island, until it approaches Sheik's Island; thence along the middle of the strait which divides Barnhart's Island and Sheik's Island, to the channel called the Long Sault, which separates the last two mentioned islands from the Lower Long Sault Island; thence westerly, crossing the centre of the last mentioned channel, until it approaches within 100 yards of the north shore of the Lower Sault Island; thence up the north branch of the river, keeping to the north of and near the Lower Long Sault Island, and also north of and near the Upper Sault Island and south of the two small islands, to the western extremity of the Upper Sault, etc." The boundary line is thus described in detail as far as Lake Ontario.

In the treaties, the St. Lawrence was stated to be free and open to navigation.

Generally speaking the boundary so described keeps to the middle of the river, dividing it fairly equally, but at Barnhart's Island the boundary is nearer the Canadian shore than that of the United States, so that over 90% of the water is in the United States and about 10% in Canada in this vicinity.

This was so noticeable that occasion was taken in drafting the treaty of 1842, the Ashburton Treaty, to insert the following clause (Article VIII.), "It is agreed that the channels of the River St. Lawrence on both sides of the Long Sault Islands and of Barnhart's Island shall be equally free and open to ships, vessels, and boats of both parties."

This was intended to emphasize the equal rights and ownership of the river by both countries, that all treaties endeavour to express.

By Article IV. of the reciprocity treaty of 1854, the right to navigate both the St. Lawrence above the point where it ceases to be the boundary, and the canals in Canada used as part of the water communication between the Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean was temporarily secured to the citizens and inhabitants of the United States. By Article XXVI of the Treaty of Washington, of May 8th, 1871, the same right as to the St. Lawrence is secured in perpetuity. By Article XXVII the British Government engaged to