

As this right is claimed, on the part of the President, as within his constitutional powers, without the consent of Maine, and as no action on the part of Maine, in reference to this mode of adjustment, is asked by the President, I forbear to comment upon it, but refer it to your consideration.

Our situation, in relation to this interesting question, at this moment demands the exercise of cool and dispassionate judgment, and careful, cautious, but firm action. We owe it to the General Government and our sister States, to do nothing rashly or hastily; to bear and forbear for the sake of the peace of the nation and the quiet of our borders; but we have a duty to perform to ourselves and our constituents, who have intrusted the rights and honor of Maine to our keeping. Relying upon your patriotism, and intelligence, and caution, I place these documents before you, and ask your action upon them, in the confident hope that the rights and the territory secured to us by our fathers, in the field and the cabinet, will not be impaired or surrendered.

EDWARD KENT.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, *March 14, 1838.*

STATE OF MAINE.

Resolves in relation to the northeastern boundary.

Resolved, That it is not expedient to give the assent of this State to the Federal Government to treat with that of Great Britain for a conventional line for our northeastern boundary; but that this State will insist on the line established by the treaty of 1783.

Resolved, That as this State has never, heretofore, given her consent to the appointment of an umpire under the treaty of Ghent, in 1814, but has protested against the same; and as she believes it to be a grave question whether the provision in the treaty for this purpose has not done its office, and is, therefore, no longer in force, she is not now prepared to give her assent to the appointment of a new arbiter.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to urge the passage of the bill for the survey of the northeastern boundary of the United States, &c., now pending in Congress; and that if said bill shall not become a law during the present session of Congress, and if the Government of the United States, either alone or in conjunction with Great Britain or the State of Maine, shall not, on or before the first day of September next, establish and appoint a commission for a survey of said boundary line, it shall then be the imperative duty of the Governor, without further delay, to appoint forthwith suitable commissioners and surveyors for ascertaining, running, and locating the northeastern boundary line of this State, and to cause the same to be carried into operation.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to transmit to the President of the United States one copy of his message to the Legislature, on the subject of the northeastern boundary, and these resolutions, and one copy of the same to each of the Heads of Department at Washington, one copy to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and one copy to the Governor of Massachusetts.