

St. Andrews, N.B., and later in New York in 1822, with disagreement on both occasions. The question was next referred to the King of the Netherlands; but the Senate declined to accept his decision.

There comes a time when an affair is so complicated that it can only be solved by war or good-will. This boundary question will serve as an illustration. By the Treaty of 1783, Article 11, the north-east boundary of the United States was held to extend along the middle of the St. Croix river, "from its mouth in the Bay of Fundy to its source," and "north from the source of the St. Croix river to the highlands; along the said highlands which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the river St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean, to the north-easternmost head of the Connecticut river; thence along the middle of that river to the 45th degree of north latitude."

A fresh difficulty was introduced into the negotiations by the pedantic precision of a draughtsman. In 1621 James I granted "Nova Scotia" to Sir William Alexander, the western boundary of which extended from the source of the St. Croix river "towards the north" to the nearest waters draining into the St. Lawrence. In the light of more modern knowledge this line runs WNW; but in 1763 the clerk who drew the commission to Sir Montagu Wilmot, Governor of Nova Scotia, described the line as running "due north" from the source of the St. Croix.

Out of this arose two distinct opinions. The English held that the "due north line" was forty miles long, and ran to Mars Hill, Aroostook County. The United States claimed that the line was 140 miles long and ran to the highlands which divide the Restigouche and the tributaries of the Metis. By no process of law could such a dispute be adjudicated. It was effected by compromise. Maine received 5,500 square miles less than were claimed. England received a similar amount less than she claimed. Whether settled right or wrong, the dispute was settled, and danger of war was at an end. The Federal Government paid to Maine one hundred