

drawn from the most north-western point of the Lake of the Woods, along the 49th parallel of north latitude; or, if the said point should not be on the 49th parallel of north latitude, then, that a line drawn from the said point, north or south as the case may be, until the said line shall intersect the said parallel of north latitude, and from the point of such intersection due west, along and with the said parallel, shall be the line of demarcation between the territories of Her Britannic Majesty and those of the United States from the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains."

In the month of June, 1872, the British Commission was appointed, consisting of Major Cameron, R.A., Commissioner; Captain Anderson, R.E., Chief Astronomer; Captain Featherstonhaugh and Lieutenant Galwey, of the Royal Engineers, Assistant Astronomers; Captain Ward, R.E., Secretary. Lieutenant Rowe, R.E., was subsequently appointed to the Commission as Surveying Officer. Forty-four of the Royal Engineers were specially selected and detailed for duty with the Expedition; and a contingent of surveyors and assistants was appointed by the Dominion of Canada, as well as Dr. Burgess, Surgeon; Mr. Boswell, Veterinary Surgeon; and Mr. G. M. Dawson, Geologist. As soon as the Commission was appointed, the Commissioner and Secretary started at once for Canada, where all ordinary stores and provisions were purchased and forwarded to Red River. In order to ascertain and mark this international boundary with the greatest possible accuracy, it was considered necessary to provide the best class of portable instruments that could be constructed; and with the advice of the Astronomer Royal, under whom the officers were instructed in the special duties required of them, the specification for such instruments as were best adapted for the work was prepared, and the whole order was entrusted to Messrs. Troughton and Simms, who with the greatest skill and energy applied the whole of their staff to the execution of the order. As soon as the equipment and outfit were complete, the officers and detachment of the Royal Engineers left Liverpool on the 22nd of August, 1872, with the special stores and instruments required for the Expedition.

Proceeding *viâ* Quebec and the Canadian Lakes, the party travelled by permission of the United States authorities from Duluth, on the western shore of Lake Superior, through the State of Minnesota by rail, to the head-waters of Red River; thence, partly by marching and partly by river-transport, reached the frontier at Pembina on the 20th of September. Here the contingent of Canadian officers and *employés* reported for duty, and here the Commission appointed by the United States were also assembled in readiness to commence jointly astronomical