

the treaty of 1814 Col. Coffin, while censuring Great Britain for restoring its conquests in the State of Massachusetts, made a most important admission, which I shall cite in his own words: "It may be well also to remind the men of Canada that in this same month of December, 1814, England held not by force of arms alone, but by the eager adherence of the people of the country, *the whole of that part* of Massachusetts, now Maine, lying between New Brunswick on the east, Canada on the north, and the Penobscot on the west. In the months of July and September, 1814, expeditions organized by Sir John C. Sherbrooke, Governor of Nova Scotia, occupied 100 miles of territory west of New Brunswick, *including the whole of the disputed territory*, fraught in later years with so much difficulty and, according to Lord Palmerston, with the disgrace of the shameful capitulation of 1842. In December, 1814, this territory was ours not only by right of war, but with the consent and content of the population. Remember, too, that this was the epoch of the Hartford convention. Ingersoll, an American historian of the time, writes: 'Without a blow struck, part of Massachusetts passed under the British yoke, and so remained without the least resistance until restored by the peace.'" Dissenting, as I do entirely, from the conclusion of Col. Coffin that the people of Massachusetts intended to consent to a transference of any portion of their territory I can readily believe that, opposed as they were to the war of 1812 they were very quiescent, but my object has been to draw attention to Col. Coffin's clear admission that the territory east of the Penobscot and west of New Brunswick was bounded on the North by Canada whose boundaries were settled, by an Act of Parliament which I have cited. It is not unworthy of notice that the later critics of British diplomatists have taken no notice of Col. Coffin's admission. I must not omit to notice an overture made in 1833, under instructions from President Jackson, which is held by Mr. Sandford Fleming, Col. Coffin, Mr. Dent and Mr. Ramsay to have been a most satisfactory proposition, and the refusal by Lord Palmerston to entertain it is made the ground of severe censure on that statesman. The writers referred to seem all to be of opinion that General Jackson, to use Mr. Ramsay's own words, "proposed that the line should be drawn from St. Croix to the Highlands at the sources of the Kennebec and Chaudière, regardless of the point of the compass. It did not use these words, but this would have been the effect." The precise words are given by Mr. Sandford Fleming who draws the same conclusion from them that Mr. Ramsay does. I have drawn a very different inference from the language