

It will also appear that the Governor and Legislature of Maine, satisfied that the trespassers had acted in defiance of the laws of both countries, learning that they were in possession of arms, and anticipating (correctly as the result has proved) that persons of their reckless and desperate character would set at nought the authority of the magistrates, without the aid of a strong force, had authorized the sheriff, and the officer appointed, in the place of the land agent, to employ, at the expense of the State, an armed posse, who had proceeded to the scene of the depredations, with a view to the entire dispersion or arrest of the trespassers, and the protection of the public property.

In the correspondence between the Governor of Maine and Sir John Harvey, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, which has grown out of these occurrences, and is likewise herewith communicated, the former is requested to recall the armed party advanced into the disputed territory for the arrest of trespassers, and is informed that a strong body of British troops is to be held in readiness to support and protect the authority and subjects of Great Britain in said territory. In answer to that request the Provincial Governor is informed of the determination of the State of Maine to support the land agent and his party in the performance of their duty, and the same determination, for the execution of which provision is made by a resolution of the State Legislature, is communicated by the Governor to the General Government.

The Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, in calling upon the Governor of Maine for the recall of the land agent and his party from the disputed territory, and the British Minister in making a similar demand upon the government of the United States, proceed from the assumption that an agreement exists between the two nations, conceding to Great Britain, until the final settlement of the boundary question, exclusive possession of, and jurisdiction over, the territory in dispute. The important bearing which such an agreement, if it existed, would have upon the condition and interests of the parties, and the influence it might have upon the adjustment of the dispute, are too obvious to allow the error upon which this assumption seems to rest, to pass for a moment without correction. The answer of the Secretary of State to Mr. Fox's note, will show the ground taken by the government of the United States on this point. It is believed that all the correspondence which has passed between the two governments upon this subject, has already been communicated to Congress, and is now on their files. An abstract of it, however, hastily prepared, accompanies this communica-