

States in support of their asserted rights, render it probable that they would manifest again the same disposition to encroachment under the delays which would attend the discussions, to which the negotiations on such a basis would lead; and if actuated by this spirit, the ensuing elections might be less favourable to the prospects of tranquillity on the border, than exist with the persons who are at present in authority.

The hostile proceedings which were singly undertaken by the State of Maine in 1838, involved that State in financial difficulties; but they have had sufficient influence, as I understand, to obtain from Congress the re-imbusement of their expenses,—a proof in itself of the powerful ascendancy which this State has been enabled to exert in support of their views.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) W. M. G. COLEBROOKE.

No. 33.

Mr. Fox to Viscount Palmerston.—(Received August 29.)

(No. 75.)

My Lord,

Washington, August 11, 1841.

SINCE writing my despatch, No. 73, of the 8th instant, I have received the inclosed despatch from Lord Sydenham, in reply to the communication (inclosed in despatch No. 73) which I had addressed to his Excellency upon the present state of the negotiation for regulating the provisional custody and occupation of the Disputed Territory.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) H. S. FOX.

Inclosure in No. 33.

Lord Sydenham to Mr. Fox.

Sir,

*Government House, Kingston,
August 3, 1841.*

MR. MOORE transmitted to me yesterday, by a special messenger, your despatch, No. 10, of the 27th of July.

I hear with pleasure that the Government of the United States have at length resumed the consideration of the best means for maintaining tranquillity and preventing further encroachments in the Disputed Territory pending the adjustment of the question of sovereignty, and that the propriety of effecting that object through a force under the control of, and responsible to, the Central Government on either side, to the exclusion of the civil posse, has been admitted by the Secretary of State.

But the satisfaction which I should otherwise feel, is greatly diminished by the statement of the terms upon which, as it appears from your despatch, and from the projet of a note inclosed in it, Mr. Webster proposes to effect such an arrangement, which are such as I should neither feel authorized by my instructions to sanction, nor indeed could recommend Her Majesty's Government to agree to.

Mr. Webster's proposal goes not merely to the retention by the United States of the block-house at the mouth of the Fish River, and the establishment there of a military force in the place of the civil posse at present in occupation of that post, but to confine the occupation of the Territory in dispute by Her Majesty's forces to the north bank of the St. John's, thereby virtually excluding them from affording protection, if required, to Her Majesty's subjects on the south bank of that river, on which, as you have justly stated, a large population is extended, whose claims for such protection could not be overlooked or neglected.

Such a proposition I consider wholly inadmissible. The Madawaska settlement, as you are aware, extends along both banks of the river; and