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map, of the engineer who was employed last year in determining the probable boundary line between British Columbia and Alaska, and also a copy of his instructions, with a copy of the treaty or convention between Great Britain and Russia respecting the said boundary. He said he considered that this information ought to be placed in the Sessional Papers, to give every hon. member of this House a clear idea of our relations with the United States, so far as the boundary line of Alaska was concerned. It was necessary that this boundary should be defined, to prevent a conflict in the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the two countries. There was at this moment a great excitement in British Columbia with respect to mining, and valuable quartz lodes had been found on the Alaska side of the boundary. If, at any time hereafter, quartz lodes were found near the supposed boundary, it might create more or less excitement of an unpleasant character between the two countries. It was necessary that, in connection with the boundary, on the Stickeen River more particularly, an arrangement should be made between the two Governments to determine a certain point as the limit of their respective jurisdictions. He was assured that at the American town of Wrangel, situated opposite the mouth of the Stickeen River in Alaska, sales were made to men employed on the British side of the Stickeen during the year, to the amount, in round numbers, of \$100,000 worth of merchandize. When he drew the attention of the Government, and especially of the hon. the Minister of Customs, the other day, to the duties paid at Stickeen, it was with the view of ascertaining whether some evidence could be obtained to corroborate the statement made to him by steamboat captains as to the trade on the Stickeen. By the non-definition of the boundary, even temporarily, by the two Governments, this trade was thrown into American hands instead of into British Columbia hands. He was assured that, if the boundary proposed by Mr. Hunter who was sent there by the Government last year, were adopted, and a Custom house station placed there, Canadian steamships would

proceed there, and the miners who visited them during the winter season, would make their headquarters on the British side of the line. As the matter was now, they were really contributing to build up the American side and to the support of American steamers passing from Portland to Alaska and carrying Oregon produce, instead of British steamers which might pass through the mouth of the Stickeen into British Columbian territory. He hoped the Government would bring down Mr. Hunter's report and maps, and any additional information, which would show the outline of Alaska in front of British territory, the inland included.

MR. BUNSTER, in rising to second this motion, said it would have afforded him much greater pleasure if the motion had been for the purchase of Alaska. Hon. gentlemen might laugh, but looking at the matter from a national point of view, he fully meant what he said, from his knowledge of the country, that the territory of Alaska possessed a more genial climate than Ottawa, notwithstanding its latitude, while its natural resources and capabilities were more valuable than people had any idea of. As early as the months of January and February, gardening operations were commenced. He questioned very much if they could do that in Ottawa. Vegetation was rapid during the summer season; but he must acknowledge not so rapid as here at the Capital. When hon. members of this House sneered at Alaska, he had a right to speak from his own personal knowledge, and tell them they were mistaken; and the day was not far distant when, from the geographical position of this country, they would see the force of his remarks on this subject. They could not but recognize the great fact, that British Columbia was the centre of the British Empire, between Australasia, Europe and Canada. Hence, he felt that that Province occupied a proud position; and that it was the duty of every British Columbian to keep his fellow countrymen here well informed on British Columbia. He remembered when Sir John A. Macdonald brought British Columbia into the Union, much to her detriment, because the contract

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