

further instructions negotiations must cease. The other differences were of minor importance. Sir C. Bagot further said that the maritime jurisdiction claimed by Russia was still unretracted, and that the British Government would probably be of opinion that some arrangement must still be entered into. This marked the fourth stage of the negotiations. There is a letter from Count Nesselrode to Count Lieven, in which three points were mentioned on which it was impossible for Russia to give way. These were—

(1) Liberty to British subjects to hunt, to fish, and to trade with the natives of the country perpetually on the whole of that part of the coast which constitutes the subject of the discussion and which extends from 59° N. latitude to 54° 40'; (2) Liberty to English subjects to hunt, to fish and to trade with the natives of the country for ten years on another part of our coasts and islands, from 59° N. latitude to Behring Strait; (3) The permanent opening of the port of Sitka or Novo Archangelsk." Count Nesselrode then stated that Russia had always been willing to grant freedom to British subjects of using all the rivers crossing strips of coast of Russian territory and all the seas, straits, and bays belonging to Russia, and also to surrender the exclusive claims set up in the Ukase of 1821 with respect to the navigation and jurisdiction of the North Pacific Ocean. This freedom Russia, it was said, had always shown herself willing to guarantee.

The last stage of the negotiations opened in November, 1824. The treaty between Russia and the United States was signed Dec. 8, 1824. In a despatch from Geo. Canning to Stratford Canning it was stated that England could not recognize free navigation of the Pacific as an indulgence from any Power, and that as a plain and substantive stipulation this must be clearly stated in the convention, as it already had been stated in the convention between Russia and the United States. England could not accept as a boon what the United States had received as a right. . . . On Feb. 1, 1825, came the *contre projet* submitted by Stratford Canning, in Art. 3 of which the line began from the southern point of Prince of Wales Island, and ascended to the north (Prince of Wales Island belonging entirely to Russia) along Portland Channel "until it touches the coast of the mainland at the 56th degree of north latitude." This draft was altered by M. Matusevich; the difference appeared to be only verbal, but the new Art. 4, said explicitly:— "It is understood that the island called Prince of Wales shall belong entirely to Russia."

This extract combined with Mr. Dickinson's remark, appears to furnish a fair synopsis of the processes by which the boundary line of the Treaty has been arrived at. The Canadian case appears to have avoided any reference to Sir Chas. Bagot's first proposal to make Chatham Strait and the Lynn Canal the boundary. This is noteworthy, because such a proposal demonstrates the