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Proceedings of the Legislature of the State of Maine, on receiving the communication of the Award of the King of the Netherlands.—
March, 1831.

To the Senate and House of Representatives,

I HAVE received from the Secretary of State of the United States, under the direction of the President, a copy and translation of the award given by the King of the Netherlands in relation to the north-eastern boundary of the United States, upon the question submitted to him, and also a copy of the protest which the Minister of the United States at the Hague thought it his duty to make against the award referred to, together with extracts from his despatch to the Department of State, shewing the character of the protest, and the ground upon which it was made: and a copy of the correspondence between himself, and Sir Charles Bagot, the Ambassador of Great Britain at the same court, upon the subject.

Copies of these Documents, and also of the accompanying letter of the Secretary of State of the United States, will herewith be laid before you. The President, through the Secretary of State, has expressed his desire, that while this matter is under deliberation, no steps may be taken by the State of Maine, with regard to the disputed territory, which might be calculated to interrupt or embarrass the action of the Executive Board of the Government of the United States upon this subject. The importance of this suggestion will be duly appreciated by the Legislature. And while we adopt such measures as shall be judged proper and expedient to make our rights and claims known to the Government of the United States, it will doubtless be considered that we must, under the provisions of the Federal Constitution, rely with confidence upon that Government for the enforcement of our claims against the power of Great Britain.

(Signed) SAMUEL E. SMITH.

Council Chamber, March 25, 1831.

I.
Proceedings of the Legislature of Maine, on the result of the Arbitration.

Department of State of the United States.

Washington, March 18, 1831.

To His Excellency Samuel E. Smith, Governor of the State of Maine.

Sir,—By the President's direction, I have the honor to transmit, herewith, to your Excellency, a copy and translation of the award given in relation to the north-eastern boundary of the United States, upon the question which was submitted to the King of the Netherlands, by this Government and that of Great Britain concerning that boundary; which award was officially delivered to the Minister of the United States at the Hague on the 10th day of January last, and by him forwarded to this Department, where it was received on the 16th instant. With a view of making your Excellency acquainted with the state of this transaction, as received here; I also transmit herewith a copy of the protest which the Minister of the United States at the Hague thought it his duty, without instructions to that effect from the President, to address to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Government to which he is accredited, against the award referred to;—together with extracts from his despatch to this department, showing the character of his protest, and the ground upon which it was made; and a copy of the correspondence between himself and Sir Charles Bagot, the Ambassador of Great Britain at the same court, upon the subject.

Mr. Preble has asked leave of absence, for the purpose of visiting the United States, which will be forthwith granted, and has expressed an earnest wish that he may be further heard upon the subject, before any measures in regard to it are adopted by the President.

I have the honor, likewise, by direction of the President, to repeat the assurance which I made to your Excellency, in his behalf, in my letter of the 9th instant, that the subject of this award will receive all the attention and consideration to which its great importance, and the interests of the State of Maine, so materially involved therein, especially entitle it, in the Councils of the Executive of the United States; and to add that no time will be lost in communicating to your Excellency, the result of his deliberations upon it, as soon as he shall have determined upon the course which a sense of his high and responsible duties may suggest as proper on the occasion.

Under these circumstances, the President will rely with confidence upon the candour and liberality of your Excellency and the other constituted authorities of Maine, in appre-