

(6) In 1875 certain British settlers laid out a town, claimed by them to be on Canadian territory, but the United States officials claimed that it was within their territory. The difficulty was discussed with Mr. Secretary Fish, who asked the British Minister what he thought could be done to settle the question of jurisdiction. His reply was "that the occurrence went to prove the wisdom of the recommendation of Her Majesty's Government, made over two years before, that no time should be lost in laying down the boundary between the two territories." Mr. Fish "feared that even for a partial survey it would be difficult to obtain the necessary grant during the next session of Congress," and suggested that "the settlers should be called upon to suspend operations until the question of territory should be decided,"—now a long and wearisome suspense.

(7) On the 23rd November, 1875, the Canadian Government again pressed for "an expeditious settlement of the boundary," and offered concerted measures for fixing the line on the Stikene river, where the town had been laid out; but Mr. Fish "declared his conviction that it would be useless to apply to Congress for any amount whatever for such purposes."

(8) In September, 1876, one Martin, a Canadian prisoner (with a gaol record in both countries), who was being conveyed down the Stikene river, made an assault with a gun on his guards, but was overpowered, brought to Victoria, tried and convicted. Mr. Secretary Fish demanded his release, alleging that "a violation of the sovereignty of the United States had been committed;" and although in the opinion of the Canadian Minister of Justice "there was no evidence to shew in which of the two countries the act was committed," on the advice of the Colonial Office, he was released and allowed to return to the United States, "an action very gratifying to this (U.S.) Government." And it was then clearly shewn that "the uncertainty attending the question was not attributable to the Canadian Government, which had made earnest, though hitherto unsuccessful, efforts to arrange for a joint commission to mark the limit at the Stikene."

(9) During the same month, a Canadian merchant was notified to remove his goods from his store, which he claimed was within Canadian territory, or pay United States Customs' duties, the American official insisting that it was "within the jurisdiction of the United States." The store was afterwards, on a survey, found to be seven miles within Canada.

(10) The same year the Secretary of the Treasury intimated that immediately after the opening of navigation in the spring, his officers