

THE King of the Netherlands, mutually selected as Arbiter by the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the President of the United States, and invited to investigate and make a decision upon the points of difference which had arisen under the Treaty of Ghent, of 1814, in ascertaining that point of the highlands lying due north from the source of the River St. Croix, designated by the Treaty of Peace of 1783 as the north west angle of Nova Scotia, and in surveying the boundary line between the dominions of the United States and Great Britain, from the source of the River St. Croix directly north to the above-mentioned north-west angle of Nova Scotia, thence along the said highlands which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the River St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic ocean, to the north-westernmost head of Connecticut River, having officially communicated his opinion that it will be suitable to adopt for boundary between the two States (qu'il conviendra d'adopter pour limite des Etats) a line drawn due north from the source of the river St. Croix, to the point where it intersects the middle of the thalweg of the river St. John; thence the middle of the thalweg of that river, ascending to the point where the river St. Francis empties itself into the river St. John, thence the middle of thalweg of the river St. Francis, ascending to the source of its south-westernmost branch designated on map A. by the letter X, thence a line drawn due west to the highlands, thence along the said highlands which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the river St. Lawrence from those that fall into the Atlantic ocean to the north-westernmost head of Connecticut River: And the Legislature of the State of Maine having protested and continuing to protest against the adoption by the Government of the United States of the line of boundary thus described by the King of the Netherlands, as a dismemberment of her territory, and a violation of her constitutional rights: And the President of the United States having appointed the undersigned Secretaries of the Departments of State of the Treasury, and of the Navy, to meet with such persons as might be appointed by the State of Maine, for the purpose of entering into a provisional agreement as to the quantity and selection of lands of the United States, which the State of Maine might be willing to take, and the President would be willing to recommend to Congress to give for a release on her part of all claim of jurisdiction to and of her interests in the lands lying north and east of the line so designated as a boundary by the King of the Netherlands: And the Governor of Maine, by virtue of the authority vested in him, having appointed the undersigned William Pitt Preble, Reuel Williams, and Nicholas Emery, Commissioners on the part of said State, to meet and confer with the said Secretaries of State, of the Treasury, and of the Navy, thus authorized as aforesaid, with a view to an amicable understanding and satisfactory arrangement and settlement of all disputes which had arisen, or might arise, in regard to the north eastern boundary of said State and of the United States: And several meetings and conferences having been had at Washington between the 18th day of May, and the 2d day of June, 1832; and the said Commissioners, on the part of the State of Maine, having distinctly declared, that said State did not withdraw her protest against the adoption of the line designated as a boundary by the King of the Netherlands, but would continue to protest against the same; and that it was the desire of the Legislature and Government of Maine, that new negotiations should be opened for the purpose of having the line designated by the Treaty of Peace of 1783, run and marked according to that Treaty; and if that should be found impracticable for the establishment of such a new boundary between the dominions of the United States and Great Britain, as should be mutually convenient, Maine in such case to be indemnified, so far as practicable, for jurisdiction and territory lost in consequence of any such new boundary, by jurisdictional and other rights to be acquired by the United States over adjacent territory; and transferred to said State. And for these purposes the Undersigned Commissioners were ready to enter into a provisional agreement to release to the United States the rights and claim of Maine to jurisdiction over the territory lying north and east of the line designated by the Arbiter, and her interest in the same, the said State of Maine and the State of Massachusetts being owners of the land in equal shares; suggesting at the same time the propriety of suspending the conferences until the Senate of the United States, whose advice it had become the duty of the President to take, and before whom his message for that purpose was then under consideration, should finally act in the matter, in which suggestion the Secretaries of State of the Treasury and of the Navy concurred.

And the Senate of the United States, did on the 23rd day of June, 1832, pass a resolution in the words following:

Resolved, that the Senate advise the President to open a new negotiation with his Britannic Majesty's Government, for the ascertainment of the boundary between the possessions of the United States and those of Great Britain, on the north-east frontier of the United States, according to the Treaty of Peace of 1783.

Whereupon the Secretaries of State of the Treasury, and of the Navy, did renew their communications with the Commissioners on the part of the State of Maine, and state it to be the wish and intention of the President to open a negotiation with the Government of Great Britain for the purposes mentioned by the said Commissioners, and also for making arrangements relative to the navigation of the River St. John, and the adjustment of other points that may be necessary for the convenience of the parties interested; but deeming a cession from the State of Maine, of all her jurisdiction and right of soil over the territory heretofore described, and in the manner heretofore stated as indispensable to the success of such negotiation, the Secretaries of State of the Treasury, and of the Navy,

XII.

North-eastern
Boundary.

Arrest of E. Greely.
Fortifications.