

Ashburton-Webster Treaty (Subsidiary Papers)

The outlet of Lake Pohenagamook and the point on the north-west branch, designated by the Treaty having been thus ascertained and marked, in the spring of 1844, a straight line was run between them. Along that line, which passes entirely through forest, monuments were erected at every mile, at the crossings of the principal streams and rivers, and at the tops of those hills where a transit instrument had been set up to test the straightness of the line.

As soon as the parallel of latitude $46^{\circ} 25'$ had been determined on the south-west branch, in the early part of the summer of 1844, a straight line was drawn from the boundary point on the north-west branch to a large monument erected on the left bank of the south-west branch where it is intersected by the parallel of latitude $46^{\circ} 25'$. The line so drawn crosses the south-west branch once before it reaches the parallel of latitude $46^{\circ} 25'$, and at about half a mile distance from that parallel. There also, a large monument had been set up on the left bank.

From the intersection of the parallel $46^{\circ} 25'$, the boundary ascends the south-west branch, passes through a lake near its head, and so up a small stream which falls into the lake from the west, to the source of that stream, which has been selected as the source of the south-west branch.

On the south-west branch there are two principal forks, at each of which two monuments have been erected, one on each bank of the river, immediately above the forks, and upon the branch established as the boundary. The maps point out their positions. At the mouth of the small stream selected as the source of the south-west branch, a monument has been erected upon a delta formed by two small outlets. Above those outlets 3 other monuments have been placed, at intervals upon the same stream.

Upon the crest of the dividing ridge, very close to the source of the south-west branch a monument has been erected. It is the first point in the Highlands, and from it the boundary runs along the crest, in a southerly direction, passing near the south-eastern shore of the Portage Lake, and so on to a large monument erected on a small eminence on the east side of the Kenebec road. Thence it passes through a dwelling-house, called Tachereau's which was standing there at the time the line was run; so, by a tortuous course, it runs to the top of the Sandy Stream Mountain; thence, inclining to the south-west, it runs over Hog's Back the first, as shown in the map; thence towards Hog's Back the second, which it leaves on the north side. Further on, at the head of Leach Lake, there is a stream which divides its waters and flows both into Canada and into The United States. The boundary has been made to run up that stream a short distance from the fork, where the waters divide to a second fork; thence between the streams which unite to form that fork, and then to ascend again the dividing ridge. A monument has been erected at the fork just mentioned, where the waters divide.

As the boundary approaches the valley of Spider River, it bends to the south-east, and, by a wide circuit over high and steep hills, it turns the head of Spider River; thence it bends to the north-west, until it approaches within about 4 miles of Lake Megantic; thence it turns again south, having the valley of Arnold's River on the right, and of Dead River on the left. It leaves Gasford Mountain in Canada, threads its way over very high ground between the head of Arnold's River and the tributaries of the Magalloway; inclines then to the north, to the west, over very rocky mountainous, and difficult country, leaving Gipp's Peak in The United States, and turns, by a sharp angle at Saddle Back, to the south. After that it again inclines to the west, and then to the south, and again to the west, and passes the head of the Connecticut. About 3 miles and a half east of the head of the Connecticut, there is a division of waters similar to that described near Leach Lake. The boundary runs down a stream from near its source to the fork, where it divides, and then again follows the dividing ridge. The spot is noted on the map.

After the boundary has passed the head of the Connecticut, it runs to the north-west, descending into very low, swampy ground, between the heads of Indian stream and the tributaries of the St. Francis. Thus it passes on, bending again to the south of west, over a high hill, to the source of Hall's stream.

Iron monuments have been erected at intervals along the Highlands, from the source of the south-west branch of the St. John to the source of Hall's stream; the position of each of which is shown upon the maps.

From the source of Hall's stream the boundary descends that river, dividing the islands, which are, however, merely unimportant alluvial deposits, in the manner indicated by the maps, until it reaches the intersection of that stream by the line formerly run by Valentine and Collins as the 45° of north latitude.

At that point a large monument has been erected on the right and a small one on the left bank of this stream. Monuments have also been erected along the bank of this stream, as indicated on the maps.

The line of Valentine and Collins was explored and found by the blazes still remaining in the original forest.

Upon cutting into those blazes, it was seen that, deep-seated in the tree, there was a scar, the surface of the original blaze slightly decayed, and upon counting the rings (which indicate each year's growth of the tree) it was found that the blazes dated back to 1772,