

Therefore it will not be necessary that you should be very particular as to the selection of the precise point of the River St. John from which that line is to be drawn; and you will consider yourself at liberty to agree to the adoption of any point which may seem to fulfil with proximate correctness the purposes of the Treaty.

You will do well, however, to weigh with great care any proposition which may be made to you by the United States' Commissioner involving a departure to any extent from the letter of the Treaty, or suggesting any considerable compromise with respect to the Line of Boundary in this particular quarter, at the same time that you will evince every disposition, on your part, to remove, by mutual concession, any difficulty which may arise between you respecting it.

On these matters much must depend on the good feelings and good understanding which may subsist between the two Commissioners.

If, contrary to our hopes, you should find in your American colleague a disposition to exact too much or to concede too little, you will in that case insist upon the accurate delineation of every part of the Line of Boundary in that quarter, as provided by the Treaty; and if you fail to arrive at a mutual settlement of the points in dispute, you will take them for reference to your Government.

For the scientific mode of tracing the Boundary Line and laying down the various points, especially in this difficult part of it, I cannot do better than refer you to the annexed memorandum which has been drawn up from the valuable suggestions of Professor Airy, Her Majesty's Astronomer Royal.

4. I now proceed to treat of the fourth section of Boundary, or that part of the Line from the north-west to the south-west branch of the River St. John; and thence to the intersection of the understood 45th parallel of north latitude with the River Connecticut.

The Treaty provides for the tracing of this part of the Boundary as follows:

"Thence," (*i. e.*, from the north-west branch of the River St. John) "in a straight line, in a course about south, eight degrees west, to the point where the parallel of latitude of $46^{\circ} 25'$ north intersects the south west branch of the St. John; thence southerly by the said branch to the source thereof in the highlands at the Metjarmette Portage: thence down along the said highlands which divide the rivers that empty themselves into the River St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean, to the head of Hall's Stream; thence down the middle of said stream, till the line thus run intersects the old line of Boundary surveyed and marked by Valentine and Collins previously to the year 1774, as the 45th degree of north latitude, and which has been known and understood to be the line of actual division between the States of New York and Vermont on one side and the British Province of Canada on the other: and from said point of intersection west along the said dividing line, as heretofore known and understood, to the Iroquois or St. Lawrence River."

In this part of the Boundary the river intended by the Treaty as the south-west branch of the St. John is so clearly indicated by the words "to the source thereof at the Metjarmette Portage," that no doubt or difficulty can well arise in ascertaining and laying it down. Having done so, the parallel of $46^{\circ} 25'$ north must be accurately established upon it by means of astronomical observation; and the straight line described in the Treaty must then be traced to that point from the previously established point on the north-west branch of the St. John.

In tracing the Line from the source of the south-west branch of the St. John at the Metjarmette along the highlands which divide the rivers which empty themselves into the River St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean to the head of Hall's Stream, it will be sufficient to adopt the broad principle of a *general* division of the two classes of waters above described, the one from the other, without attending too scrupulously to that division in detail.

With this view you will propose to the United States' Commissioner that the Line should be traced, so far as it may be found practicable, along