

any value whatever to a map which is entitled to no weight, either from diplomatic or scientific considerations.

The third passage is in Article XIV. of the American Counter-Draft, which seems to imply, that agents of the two Governments should accompany the Commission of Survey, for the purpose, as it is said, of giving explanations on behalf of the respective parties.

To such a proposal, Her Majesty's Government cannot possibly consent; no such agents are necessary; no such explanations are wanted. The face of the country, and the words of the Treaty, are the things to be explained, and the Commissioners are there to explain them. The proposed agents would only maintain a perpetual squabble, and convert the encampments of the Commissioners into a scene of incessant contest. Her Majesty's Government must therefore insist that no agents, either from the British Government, or the British Colonial Authorities, or from the United States' Government, or from any of the States of the Union, be permitted to accompany the Commission of Survey.

For your further information and guidance, I send you a copy of the American Counter-Draft, with some marginal notes, which will put you in possession of the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, upon the points to which those notes refer.

In the Draft now sent, it is proposed that the Commission of Survey should meet at Quebec, and begin its exploration at the head of the Connecticut. This would be the most natural, and, in many respects, the most convenient arrangement; and the Commissioners would thus have the advantage of beginning their operations on Highlands which have already been acknowledged by both parties as being the Highlands of the Treaty, and as constituting a part of the Boundary between the two countries. Her Majesty's Government attach, therefore, much importance to this arrangement, and would very unwillingly consent to give it up. You will, it is to be hoped, have the less difficulty in maintaining it, because the Draft stipulates that the Commission shall be bound to survey any other part of the Disputed Territory which two Commissioners on either side may wish to visit; and, therefore, the question merely is, which part of the territory the Commissioners shall begin at, and no part is to be excluded from their subsequent examination.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) PALMERSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Draft of Convention between Great Britain and the United States, to ascertain and determine the North-Eastern Boundary.

PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS that portion of the Boundary between the British Dominions in North America and the United States of America, described in the Treaty of Peace signed at Paris on the 3rd September, 1783, as formed by a "line drawn due north from the source of the St. Croix River to the Highlands; 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; thence down along the middle of that river, to the 45th degree of north latitude; from thence by a line due west on said latitude until it strikes the River Iroquois or Cataraguay," has not yet been ascertained or determined; and whereas the point designated in the aforesaid Treaty, as the north-west angle of Nova Scotia, and which is to be formed by the intersection of the due north line from the head of the St. Croix, with the said Highlands, has therefore not been ascertained and defined; and whereas, by the stipulations of a Convention between Great Britain and the United States of America, signed at London on the 29th of September,