

standings, proposed to remove all future uncertainty and doubt by negotiating.

“Such a variation of the line of frontier as would secure a *direct* communication between Quebec and Halifax.”—*Aug. 19, 1814.*

The American Commissioners had admitted, upon the opening of the negotiations, that they were warranted by their instructions in agreeing to a revision of the Boundary; but, upon further consultation, those gentlemen considered their powers limited to cases where there was an obvious cause for uncertainty and dispute; and as the present claim of America was considered by them to have nothing uncertain about it, and to be perfect, they therefore declared that they had—

“No authority to *cede* any part of the Territory of the United States, and to no stipulation to that effect will they subscribe.”—*Aug. 24, 1814.*

To this it was replied—

“The American Plenipotentiaries must be aware that the boundary of the district of Maine has never been correctly ascertained; that the one asserted at present by the American government, by which the direct communication between Halifax and Quebec becomes interrupted, was not in contempla-