

must be guided by the same *carte*. I thought the article would admit of no disputes."

Now this letter assists us in rightly interpreting the tenth article of the Treaty of Utrecht. It shows that the French were afraid that the English might claim under the expression, "all that England ever possessed on that coast," a part of their dominions of Canada. They were not afraid that the English would cross the watershed; but they were afraid that the country between Abbitibbi and the Bay; between their ports upon the Albany and the Bay, and other sections of the country which the French held as part of Canada and the shores of the Bay, would be claimed by the English. The plenipotentiaries had before them a map by which those who determined the difference, were bound to be guided. They were not to draw a line nearer to the Bay than that drawn by the French, nor further away than that drawn by the English. Mr. Prior tells us that there is no great difference between those lines. The line drawn by the French is described as follows:—

"The line of separation should commence at Cape Bouton, pass through the middle of the territory which is between Port Rupert and Lake Nemiskaw, of which Père Albanel Jesuit and Mr. De St. Simon took possession in the name of the King in 1672, follow at the same distance from the Bay along the eastern side in such manner as to divide in the middle the territory between the Lake of the Abbitibbis and Fort Monsipi or St. Louis, continuing at a similar distance from the shores of the Bay at the western side until beyond the river of St. Therese and Bourbon."

Cape Bouton is about the 61° of north latitude. The line drawn by the English was from Grimington Island in 58½° north latitude, south-westward to Lake Mistassan; beyond this no line is described. When the negotiations were opened in 1719 the English Commissioners disregarded their instructions, and demanded that the line should commence upon the coast 2° farther south, and should be continued to the 49th parallel. The negotiations came to nothing, nor was it expected they would. The lines upon the map by which the Treaty of Utrecht was to be interpreted, were wholly disregarded in the English demands. Mr. Pultney, in writing to Secretary Craggs, admitted that he never expected any success, that the French view were opposed to the English; that their interests were directly opposite; and that the French knew that they (the English) were prepared to reject all their demands. If we look at the settlements, or trading ports, it becomes pretty clear that the line which it was proposed to draw, was a line similar to that drawn by the Treaty of St. Petersburg upon the western coast, a line which would leave to the English a moderate extent of country in the vicinity of the bay for the protection of their post, but which would