

the latitude and longitude of its mouth and of its source. Duplicates of this declaration, and of the statements of their accounts, and of the journal of their proceedings, shall be delivered by them to the agent of his Britannic Majesty, and to the agent of the United States, who may be respectively appointed and authorized to manage the business on behalf of their respective Governments. And both parties agree to consider such decision as final and conclusive, so as that the same shall never thereafter be called into question, or made the subject of dispute or difference between them."

Now, sir, these commissioners or arbitrators were to decide a question which involved the right to a large and valuable portion of the territory of the State of Maine; and under their decision, which was not called in question by Great Britain, Maine now holds that territory. So likewise, under the fourth article of the treaty of peace concluded at Ghent in 1814, our right to certain islands in the Bay of Passamaquoddy was submitted to arbitration. That article is as follows:

"Whereas it was stipulated by the second article of the treaty of peace of 1783, between his Britannic Majesty and the United States of America, that the boundary of the United States should comprehend all islands within twenty leagues of any part of the shores of the United States, and lying between lines to be drawn due east from the points where the aforesaid boundaries between Nova Scotia on the one part and East Florida on the other, shall respectively touch the Bay of Fundy and the Atlantic ocean, excepting such islands as now are, or heretofore have been, within the limits of Nova Scotia: And whereas the several islands in the Bay of Passamaquoddy, which is part of the Bay of Fundy, and the island of Menour, in the said Bay of Fundy, are claimed by the United States as being comprehended within their aforesaid boundaries, which said islands are claimed as belonging to his Britannic Majesty, as having been at the time of and previous to the aforesaid treaty of 1783 within the limits of the Province of Nova Scotia: In order, therefore, finally to decide upon these claims, it is agreed that it shall be referred to two commissioners, to be appointed in the following manner, viz: one commissioner shall be appointed by his Britannic Majesty, and one by the President of the United States, by and with the consent of the Senate thereof, and the said two commissioners so appointed shall be sworn *impartially to examine and decide upon the said claims according to such evidence as shall be laid before them on the part of his Britannic Majesty and of the United States, respectively.* The said commissioners shall meet at Saint Andrew's, in the Province of New Brunswick, and shall have power to adjourn to such other place or places as they shall think fit. The said commissioners shall, by a declaration or report under their hands and seals, decide to which of the two contracting parties the several islands aforesaid do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said treaty of peace of 1783. And, if the said commissioners shall agree in their decision, both parties shall consider such decision as final and conclusive. It is further agreed that, in the event of the two commissioners differing upon all or any of the matters referred to them, or in the event of both or either of said commissioners refusing or declining, or wilfully omitting to act as such, they shall make, jointly or separately, a report or reports, as well to the Government of his Britannic Majesty as that of the United States, stating in detail the points on which they differ, and the grounds upon which their respective opinions have been formed, or the grounds on which they or either of them have so refused, declined, or omitted to act. And his Britannic Majesty and the Government of the United States hereby agree to refer the report or reports of the said commissioners to some friendly Sovereign or State, to be then named for that purpose, and who shall be requested to decide upon the differences which may be stated in the said report or reports, or upon the report of one commissioner, together with