

those which affect, or dismember, Canadian territory for the benefit of the United States; a right, on lines as to international boundaries, similar to that recognized in the Imperial Act of 1871: "The Parliament of Canada may, with the consent of the Legislature of any Province, increase, diminish or alter the limits of such Province, upon such terms as may be agreed to by the said Legislature."

The claim is pressed because of the many instances of how, "in by-gone days" (as an ex-Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs has written) "British diplomacy has cost Canada dear."

British treaty gifts of Canadian territory commenced with the Treaty of Independence, 1782-3, when the Ohio and Mississippi valley of the Canada ceded by France to Britain in 1763—now comprising the States of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois (with its Chicago), Wisconsin and Minnesota,—which had formed no part of the revolted thirteen colonies, was gratuitously ceded to the United States: "An instance," says an American author, "of the sacrifice of territory, of authority, of sovereignty, and of political prestige, unparalleled in the history of diplomacy."

In 1814, the British army and Canadian militia conquests of Maine and Massachusetts to Penobscot, on the Atlantic coast, and of Michigan and the western territory to Prairie-du-Chien, on the Mississippi, and part of Oregon, during the war of 1812, were restored to the United States—without insisting upon the territorial boundaries obtained for Canada by the war, and rightly claimable under the international doctrine of *uti possidetis*.

In 1818, another large territory of the French Canada of 1763, extending from Lake Superior west, and including the district about the upper waters of the Mississippi, which the American plenipotentiaries of 1782 reported to Congress "was then possessed by Great Britain," and also including the Red River valley, which the Hudson's Bay Company had granted to Lord Selkirk in 1814, and further west to the

head waters of the Missouri river (now Dakota and adjoining territory). "went," as a Canadian historian has said, "to satisfy the thrifty appetite of the Republic."

In 1842, Lord Ashburton, in ignorance of the boundary lines on the Franklin "Red Line Map of 1782," ceded over 4,600,000 acres of Canadian lands; and, by extending Maine 86 miles north into Canada, placed a barrier between Montreal and the Atlantic. The map had been discovered by Dr. Sparks, of Harvard University, in the French Archives, and forwarded to Mr. Webster. In his report to the Senate Dr. Sparks stated that the red boundary line throughout the United States, "is exactly the line now contended for by Great Britain." And Greville's Memoirs record: "Lord Ashburton told me it was very fortunate that the map did not turn up in the course of the negotiations. Nothing, he said, would ever have induced the Americans to accept that line and admit our claim; and, with such evidence in our favour, it would have been impossible for us to concede what we did."

In 1846, Oregon, with its splendid harbours on the Pacific coast,—after many years' joint occupation by Great Britain and the United States under treaties, which were national acknowledgments of a joint sovereignty and territorial title,—was also abandoned, and ceded to the United States owing to the British yielding to the threat: "54° 40' or fight," and apparently agreeing with Lord Ashburton that Great Britain's right to the territory was "nothing but a mere question of honour."

In 1871, Britain agreed that the Fenian Raid claims of Canada, amounting to over \$1,600,000, should be made against the United States; but owing to the ambiguous wording of the Despatch proposing a treaty to settle the Alabama, Canadian and other claims, the United States rejected them, alleging that "they did not commend themselves to their favour," a denial of justice which the then Colonial Secretary acquiesced in, by say-