

QUEBEC, NOVEMBER 6.

BOUNDARIES.

The newspapers have lately announced the arrival in this City of Col. Bouchette, Surveyor General to the British Commissioners for establishing the boundary line between the United States and the British Provinces of New-Brunswick and Lower Canada. This Gentleman was employed in directing a British exploring party, acting conjointly with an American party, in prolonging a line due north from the boundary, established under the authority of a former Commission, at the source of the Saint Croix. This line, passing about three miles above the Great Falls, of the St. John, was prolonged, we understand, to a branch of the Ristigouche River, falling into the Bay of Chaleurs, and here suspended, for the present; although the Americans wished to continue it to the sources of the waters which fall into the Saint Lawrence.

The operations upon which Col. Bouchette was employed, are merely for the information of the Commissioners, who will determine, on the final report of the Surveyors, what ought to be the boundary, conformably to the Treaty of Peace, of 1783.

In the mean time, we think it our duty to call the attention of the public to a subject of so much interest to the British Empire, and to these Provinces in particular.

It is only necessary to look into an American Map, or to converse with an American on the subject, to know that they extend their pretensions to a boundary cutting off from the British possessions all the waters of the St. John River above the Great Falls, and running up, within a few leagues of the St. Lawrence, from the Matane to the sources of the River du Sud, near Quebec.

The following is the article of the Treaty on which they found a pretension, so contrary to the state of actual and permanent possession of these countries:—

ART. II. And that all disputes which might arise in future, on the subject of the boundaries of the said United States, may be prevented, it is hereby agreed and declared that the following are and shall be their boundaries, viz:— From the north-west angle of Nova-Scotia, viz: that angle which is formed by a line drawn due north from the source of Saint Croix River to the high lands; along the said high lands, which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the river Saint 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 forty-fifth degree of north latitude, from thence by a line due west on said latitude, until it strikes the river Iroquois or Cataraguy; thence along the middle of said river into lake Ontario, through the middle of said lake, until it strikes the communication by water between that lake and lake Erie; thence along the middle of said communication into lake Erie, through the middle of said lake until it arrives at the water communication between that lake and lake Huron; thence along the middle of said water communication into lake Huron, thence through the middle of said lake to the water communication between that lake and lake Superior; thence through lake Superior, northward of the Isles Royal and Phebeaux, to the long lake, thence through the middle of said long lake, and the water communication between it and the lake of the Woods, to the said lake of the Woods; thence through the said lake to the most north-western point thereof, and from thence on a due west course to the river Mississippi; thence by a line to be drawn along the middle of the river Mississippi, until it shall intersect the northernmost part of the thirty-first degree of north latitude. South, by a line to be drawn due east from the determination of the line last mentioned, in the latitude of thirty-one degrees north of the equator, to the middle of the river Apalachicola, or Catahouche, thence along the middle thereof to its junction with the Flint river; thence straight to the head of St. Mary's river; and thence down along the middle of St. Mary's river to the Atlantic Ocean. East, by a line to be drawn along the middle of the river St. Croix, from its mouth in the Bay of Fundy to its source, and from its source directly north to the afore-said highlands, which divide the rivers that fall into

the Atlantic Ocean from those which fall into the River St. Lawrence; comprehending 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, and heretofore have been, within the limits of the said Province of Nova-Scotia.

The parts of this article which refer to the boundaries in question, are those which we have printed in italics. If they justify such a pretension, we must be prepared to submit to it; it is a matter of convention made by adequate authorities, and each party is bound to adhere to it, without regarding the consequences. But if these pretensions are not justified by the letter or intension of the Treaty, we ought, equally, to be prepared to resist them as we would resist dishonour and subjugation.

The boundary at the source of the St. Croix, is fixed; whether correctly or not it is now too late to call into question. "The north-west angle of Nova-Scotia," (New-Brunswick) is the point from which the boundary line between Lower-Canada and the United States was intended to proceed; but the north-west angle of Nova-Scotia was not known at the time of making the Treaty. It depended on the determination of the boundary between Cania and Acadia, (Nova-Scotia) which was indisputed when Canada was conquered by Great-Britain. The framers of the Treaty accordingly determined it, by declaring that it should be "that angle which is formed by a line drawn due north from the source of the Saint Croix River to the highlands." In speaking of highlands, in relation to river the nearest highlands are universally understood. From a point on these highlands, then, the northern boundary of the United States is to commence; and it is to continue "along the said highlands which (in their prolongation) 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." No words, it seems to us, could with greater certainty have pointed out the commencement of the northern boundary line, than those used by the framers of the Treaty, taking these words in their usual acceptation. As to the part of the eastern boundary, described in the last part of the above article and still undetermined, it is the same with the line given to determine the north-eastern angle of Nova-Scotia in the first part, "from the source of the St. Croix, directly north, to the afore-said highlands."

It is probably, however, on the description of this part of the boundary, that the Americans have founded their claims to a northern boundary proceeding from a point on the highlands at the sources of the rivers which fall into the St. Lawrence. In referring to the "aforesaid highlands," (the highlands due north nearest the source of the St. Croix) it adds, "which divide the rivers that fall into the Atlantic Ocean, from those that fall into the Saint Lawrence." Now in point of fact, the highlands nearest the St. Croix, due north, do not divide the rivers that fall into the Atlantic Ocean, "from those that fall into the Saint Lawrence;" they divide, at that point, the Rivers that fall into the Atlantic, from those that fall into the River St. John, and the Bay of Fundy; but they are a prolongation of the highlands which divide the waters of the St. Lawrence from those falling immediately into the Atlantic; they answer the nearest to the description of the Treaty, of any highlands which can be found on the line due north of the St. Croix; the second range of highlands due north of that River divides the waters which fall into the St. John, from those that fall into the Gulf of St. Lawrence; the third, those that fall into the Bay of Chaleur, from those that fall into the River St. Lawrence, is the Bay of Fundy distinguished in this very article of the Treaty from the Atlantic, the Atlantic Ocean meant by the Treaty? Is the Bay of Chaleur or the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the Atlantic Ocean? Would any man drawing up the simplest deed, be guilty of such inaccuracy? If the Americans will

\*Vid. Memoires sur les limites de l'Acadie. pub. at Amsterdam, 1758.

prolong their line due north from the source of the Saint Croix, till they find highlands dividing the rivers which fall into the Atlantic Ocean, from those that fall into the St. Lawrence, they must cross that river, and proceed to the source of the waters which empty into the Atlantic Ocean somewhere near the entrance of Davis's Straits! for on the whole line due north of the St. Croix, they are the first that literally answer this part of the description.

But leaving the narrowest interpretation of the words of the Treaty, if we come to the

has not issued any orders against them, if really Spaniards. I am therefore strongly led to believe, that the principal part of the trade in slaves is carried on with the funds and for the benefit of the subjects of other powers, who have abolished it.

"I should enter more at large on the subject of the Spanish slave schooners, but I am aware that the Chief Justice at Sierra Leone has transmitted to Lord Bathurst a detailed account of the numerous vessels that have been and are now expected on the coast; with a full statement of the many atrocities they have been guilty of."

HALIFAX, DEC. 13.

Distressing Shipwreck

The sch. Mary, Capt. Hadley, from hence bound to Pictou, was totally lost on Black Rock near Louisburg, C. B. 17th ult; the Captain, Passengers, and Crew (eleven in number) perished. A gentleman belonging to this town, who furnished us with this information, was present at the interment of the unfortunate sufferers. He states that the inhabitants plundered every article of the Cargo they could lay their hands on, with seeming unconcern for the dead bodies lying on the shore. The plunderers consisted, partly of women. Our informant has related one circumstance truly horrible:—When he first visited the wreck of the above schooner, he discovered a female, on the beach, naked—he picked up a piece of linen which lay near her, with which he covered the body; that on his return from digging a grave, he had the mortification to see the female robbed of her covering, and two gold rings from off her finger—also the jackets and shoes from several men that lay near her.

After burying 9 men and 3 women all that could be found, he repaired to Sydney, and represented the circumstance to His Excellency Major-Gen. Ainslie, who immediately ordered a Magistrate with a party of soldiers to the spot, to take possession of any Goods that might have driven on shore; and, who has also promised, to punish any persons who might be found in possession of any such property, to the value of one shilling.

By the Honorable WARD CHIPMAN, Esquire, one of the Justices of His Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature for the Province of New-Brunswick.

To all whom it may concern, GREETING.

NOTICE is hereby given, that upon the application of JOHN DEAN, of the City of Saint John, Butcher, to me duly made, according to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided, I have directed all the Estate, as well real as personal within this Province, of Gavin Smith, late of the County of King's, Farmer, (which same Gavin Smith is departed from and without the limits of this Province, with intent and design to defraud the said JOHN DEAN, and the other creditors of the said Gavin Smith, if any there be, of their just dues, or else to avoid being arrested by the ordinary process of the Law as it is alleged against him) to be seized and attached, and that unless the said Gavin Smith do return and discharge his said debt or debts within three months from the Publication hereof, all the Estate, as well real as personal, of the said Gavin Smith, within this Province, will be sold for the payment and satisfaction of the creditors of the said Gavin Smith.

Dated at Saint John, the eighteenth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen.

WARD CHIPMAN, J. S. C.  
WM. T. PETERS, Atty.

NOTICE

THAT the DYKED MARSH LOTS No. 30 and 31 in Letter B Division, situate and lying on the sunken Island Marsh in Sackville, in the County of Westmorland, will be let at Public Auction on Tuesday the 3d day of March next, at the Dwelling House of Mr. NEREMIAH WARD in Sackville, between the hours of 11 and 3 of the same day.

JAMES EASTERBROOKS,  
THOMAS ANDERSON, junr.  
JOHN HARRIS,  
THOMAS EASTERBROOKS,  
TOLER THOMSON,  
Commissioners of Sewers for Sackville.

Sackville, November 9, 1817.  
RAGS! RAGS! RAGS!  
CASH will be given at the Royal Gazette Office, for clean Linen or Cotton RAGS.