

westward from the meridian of Greenwich, by commissions to be appointed severally by the high contracting parties, with a view to ascertainment of the facts and data necessary to the permanent delimitation of said boundary line in accordance with the spirit and intent of the existing treaties in regard to it between Great Britain and Russia, and between the United States and Russia.

“Application will be made without delay to the respective legislative bodies for the appropriations necessary for the prosecution of the survey, and the commissions to be appointed by the two governments shall meet at Ottawa within two months after said appropriation shall have been made, and shall proceed as soon as practicable thereafter to the active discharge of their duties.

“The respective commissions shall complete the survey and submit their final reports thereof within two years from their first meeting.

“The commissions shall, so far as they may be able to agree, make a joint report to each of the two governments, and they shall also report, either jointly or severally, to each government on any point upon which they may be unable to agree.

“Each government shall pay the expenses of the commission appointed by it.

“Each government engages to facilitate in every possible way any operations which, in pursuance of the plan to be agreed upon by the commission, may be conducted within its territory by the commission of the other.

“The high contracting parties agree that, as soon as practicable after the report or reports of the commissions shall have been received, they will proceed to consider and establish the boundary line in question.

“Article II. The high contracting parties agree that the governments of the United States and Her Britannic Majesty in behalf of the Dominion of Canada shall, with as little delay as possible, appoint two commissioners, one to be named by each party, to determine upon a method of more accurately marking the boundary line between the two countries in the waters of Passamaquoddy Bay in front of and adjacent to Eastport, in the State of Maine, and to place buoys or fix such other boundary marks as they may determine to be necessary.

“Each government shall pay the expenses of its own commissioner, and cost of marking the boundary in such manner as shall be determined upon shall be defrayed by the high contracting parties in equal moieties.”

536. With respect to Article II the following explanation is given:—

The Sovereignty of the Islands in the Bay of Fundy was settled by commissioners appointed under Treaty of Ghent (1814.) The commissioners, however, while awarding certain islands to Great Britain, did not distinctly define any boundary between the possessions of Great Britain and the United States. Some fishermen of the United States have erected weirs which are believed to be on Canadian territory, and it has become desirable to settle definitely and mark upon the ground where the boundary is.