

(Confidential)
His Excellency, Albion K Parris, Governor of
the State of Maine.
Department of State
Washington, 23 Decr. 1823.
Sir,
Having been informed that your Excellency was desirous of being informed of the present state of the discussion with the British Government, in relation to the question of the North-eastern boundary, I am authorized by the President of the United States, to communicate to you, in confidence, the enclosed copy of a Letter of Instructions to the Minister of the United States at London, dated the 23^d of June last, which will give you the desired information, so far as the agency of the Government of the United States is concerned.
From the latest despatches, received at this Department from Mr Rush, which are of the latter part of October, it appears that

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Date: Dec. 23, 1823
Description: John Quincy Adams about the northeast boundary of the United States

the British Government had acceded to the proposal of negotiating directly upon this subject, without recurring to the immediate arbitration of a third power - Two persons had been appointed to confer with Mr. Rush, upon this and other objects of interest to the two Countries, and it was expected their conferences with him would commence in the course of the month of November.

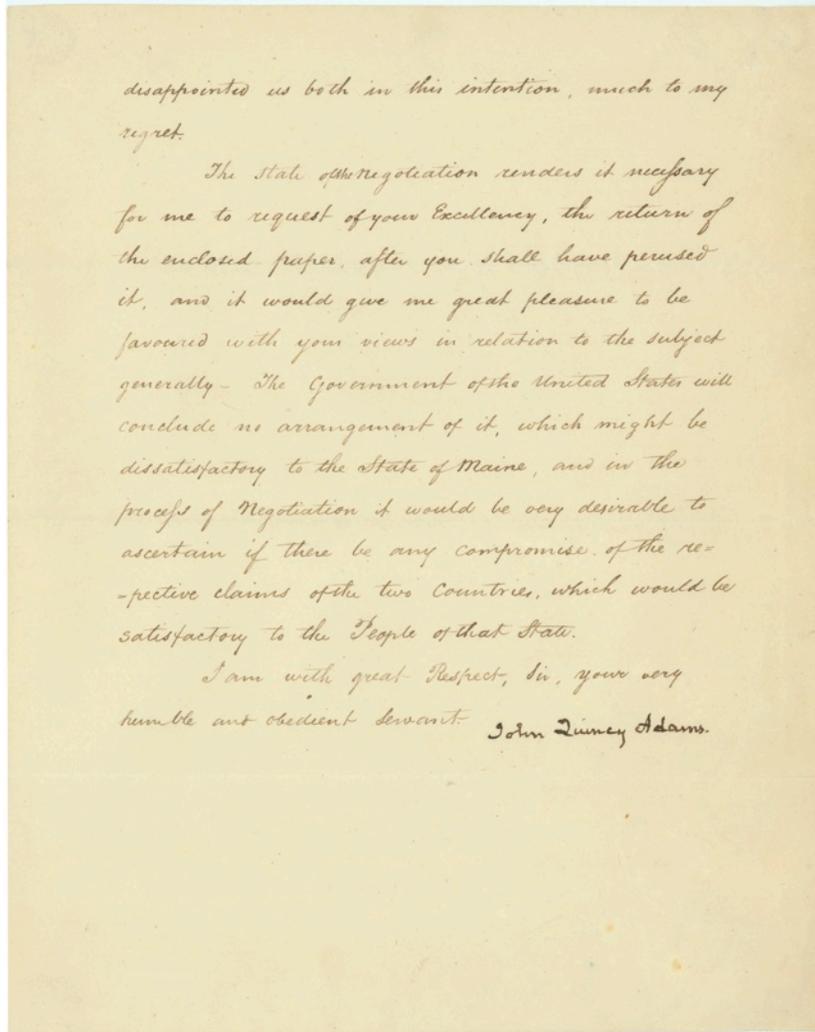
It was my intention when in the last autumn I visited Boston, to have proceeded to Portland, with a view to consult your Excellency upon this important interest, and to have communicated to you at that time the enclosed paper, together with copies of two Maps of the controverted Boundary, which had been made at the request of Mr W. King - The Governor of Massachusetts, to whom they had also been communicated, had consented to go with me to Portland - Circumstances beyond our controul,

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disappointed us both in this intention, much to my regret.

The State of the negotiation renders it necessary for me to request of your Excellency, the return of the enclosed paper, after you shall have perused it, and it would give me great pleasure to be favoured with your views in relation to the subject generally — The Government of the United States will conclude no arrangement of it, which might be dissatisfactory to the State of Maine, and in the process of Negotiation it would be very desirable to ascertain if there be any compromise of the respective claims of the two countries, which would be satisfactory to the People of that State.

I am with great Respect, Sir, your very humble and obedient Servant.

John Quincy Adams.