

# STATE OF MAINE.

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In the House of Representatives,  
February 2, 1837.

The Joint Committee to whom was referred so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the North Eastern Boundary and the documents and evidence, together with an order of the two Houses instructing the Committee "to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the appointment of Commissioners on the part of this State, by the consent of the government of the United States, to survey the line between this State and the Province of New Brunswick according to the Treaty of 1783, to establish monuments in such places as shall be fixed by said Commissioners, and by Commissioners to be appointed on the part of the government of Great Britain;" have attended to the duties assigned them with the industry and solicitude which the importance of the subject demanded. Could the Committee have spared the time, and had the means to obtain documents not within the jurisdiction of the State, and consequently out of its power, a more clear, methodical and perfect view of the subject would have been presented. But as there had been hitherto so much procrastination, and the impatience of the public, already great, was becoming more and more intense, your Committee without further preamble or apology, ask leave to present the following

## REPORT.

The Legislature and the people of Maine, we believe, will not contend that the Treaty making power of the United States does not extend to a final adjustment of a disputed and undefined line of a boundary between a State and a foreign nation. But we do insist that no power is granted by the Constitution of the United States to limit or change the boundary of a State or cede a part of its territory without its consent. It is even by no means certain how far such consent would enable the Treaty to exert its powers. Citizens might be made the subjects of a Treaty transfer, and these citizens, owing allegiance to the State and to the Union, and allegiance and protection being reciprocally binding, the right to transfer a citizen