

November session 1801, the appointment was renewed. On or about the 5th day of June, 1802, Governor Mercer, communicated the last appointment to the Governor of Virginia, and by the letter of the former of that date, it appears that the Governor of Virginia, stated to Governor Mercer, that neither the Executive nor the Legislature of Virginia, had before been apprized of any pretensions of this State, to a different boundary between them than that which had hitherto been permitted to subsist. In this letter, Governor Mercer refers the Governor of Virginia, to the correspondence between Governor Stone and Governor Brook, to remove all impressions of neglect on the part of this State. By a message from Governor Mercer, to the Legislature of Maryland, of November 6th, 1802 it appears Virginia for the first time, appointed commissioners, six or seven years after our first friendly overture, and then with limited power, confining them to a place of beginning. This prefix on the part of Virginia, which settled for herself the whole question in dispute, was rejected then, as it has been ever since by this State. At November session 1803, Mr. Mercer then a member of the House of Delegates, made a report, in which it was declared that our Western Boundary could not be settled until it should be finally agreed between the two States, which branch north or south, ought to be deemed the main branch of the river, which report now remains on our records. At November session, 1810, this State again appointed commissioners, which appointment was never noticed by Virginia. At December session 1818, having patiently tried friendly negotiation with our sister State, for a period of about forty-two years, from the date of the Virginia Constitution, which admitted our right without fixing a place of beginning, Maryland as an offer of compromise, passed a law and appointed commissioners, with authority to commence at the most western source of the North Branch; and in the sixth section of the law it was provided, that the appointment of commissioners should not be made until Virginia passed a law with similar provisions. Our commissioners were appointed, and in August 1824, met the Virginia commissioners, near the Fairfax Stone. At this meeting the Maryland commissioners were told by those on the part of Virginia, that the Fairfax Stone, was made the place of beginning