

"by the name of Saint Croix River, be held &
"deemed for all the purposes in this act con-
"tained, to be the boundary between the Pro-
"vinces of Massachusetts-Bay & Nova Scotia".

This Act creates no new boundary, it
merely recognizes, confirms and establishes that
river St. Croix as a boundary between the Pro-
vinces of Nova Scotia & Massachusetts-Bay, which
had formed a part of the original bounda-
ries of the Province of Nova Scotia in the
Patent to Sir W. Alexander in 1621, which was
agreed upon, settled, known & acknowledged
as the boundary between the Province of Nova
Scotia and the Territory of New England
granted to the Council of Plymouth in the
year 1620; which after the surrender of their
grand charter was the boundary between
Nova Scotia & the Territory granted to the Duke
of York in 1664; which was recognized
as the western boundary of Nova Scotia by
the Charter of William & Mary to the Pro-
vince of Massachusetts-Bay in 1691; which
from the treaty of Utrecht in 1713 was the
boundary between the Province of Massachu-
setts-Bay & Nova Scotia, revived and establish-
ed by the Crown, and known, acknowledged

123
and acquired in by the Government of the
Province of Massachusetts-Bay.
That from the time of the passing of this Act
of Parliament in 1774 the boundaries of the
Province of Nova Scotia, remained unaltered
to the treaty of peace in 1783, with no, it
is presumed, be denied; - And it will not
be difficult now to show that the River
St. Croix, under the name of the River
St. Croix, formed a part of the boundary
described in that treaty.

It is sufficient here to observe, that at
the time the treaty of peace was made in 1783.
The Provinces of Quebec and Nova Scotia, belong-
ing to, and were in the possession of, the Crown
of Great Britain, and that His Britannic Ma-
jesty at that time had an undoubted right to
cede to the United States of America, such part
of these Territories as he might think fit, and
that in making the cession of the territory com-
prized within the boundaries of the United States
as described in the second article of the treaty
of peace, His Majesty must be supposed to have
used the terms describing these boundaries in
the sense in which they had been uniformly un-