

AGREEMENT between Great Britain and France respecting the Boundary between Sierra Leone and French Guinea—London, September 4, 1913

(No. 2.)-, Sir Edward Grey to the French Charge d'affaires.

SIR,

Foreign Office, September 4, 1913.

I Have, the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this day's date, in which you inform me that the Government of the French Republic confirm the agreement respecting the demarcation of the boundary between Sierra Leone and French Guinea, recorded in the protocol and map signed by the British and French Commissioners, Captain Le Mesurier and Captain Schwartz, at Pendembu, on the 1st July, 1912.

I now have the honour to inform you that His Majesty's Government, by the present note, also confirm the agreement recorded in the above-mentioned Protocol and map, copies of which are enclosed herewith.

It is understood between the two Governments that the frontier line as determined by the British and French Commissioners shall not be affected by any errors which may be discovered in the determination of the position of the 13th meridian of longitude west of Paris.

I have, &c.

E. GREY.

(No. 3.)-Protocol.

BETWEEN, the undersigned, Captain F. N. Le Mesurier, District Commissioner, British Commissioner, and captain M. P. Schwartz, Colonial Infantry, French Commissioner, appointed by their respective Governments to proceed with the final delimitation of the frontier between French Guinea and Sierra Leone, it is agreed as follows:--

ART. 1. From Tembikundu to the east the frontier follows the straight lines joining the boundary cairns erected by the Anglo-French Commission of 1896, from cairn No. 1, situated close to the source of the River Tembika, to the cairn No. XI, situated at the source of the River Uldafu (Oudalfou).

2. From cairn No. XI the frontier follows the thalweg of the Uldafu to its meeting with the River Meli. Cairn No. XII has been erected close to this point, and its position is marked on the map attached to this Protocol.

3. The frontier then follows the thalweg of the River Meli to its meeting with the Moa or Makona, on the understanding that the islands marked by the letters A and B on the attached map belong to France, and that the island marked C belongs to Great Britain. The cairn No. XIII has been placed at the meeting of the Meli and the Moa, on the French bank.

4. The frontier then follows the thalweg of the Moa, or Makona, to the point where it meets the thirteenth meridian of longitude west of Paris. This point is on the straight line joining the two cairns Nos. XIV and XV, erected by the two Commissioners on the right and left banks of the Moa. The position of the different islets in the vicinity of the thirteenth meridian, and the respective rights of the two nations with regard to them, are defined on the plan, at a scale of 1/10000, placed in the corner of the map.

5. As regards the whole part of the frontier defined above, and in the case of future disputes, the position of the innumerable little islets and rocks existing in the two rivers will be fixed in connection with the thalweg. Navigation and fishing are free in this part. The use of hydraulic power may only be employed after an agreement made beforehand between the two Governments.

6. The frontier then follows, to the south, the thirteenth meridian, to the point where it meets the left bank of the Moa. This point is marked by cairn No. XV.

7. From this point the frontier follows the left bank of the Moa to its meeting with the Dangodbia River. This point is marked by the cairn of loose stones No. XVI. It is understood that this point will not be definitely fixed until an agreement shall have been made between the British and Liberian Governments, and that it can only be a matter of a small change of position.

8. In the part of the Moa included between cairns XV and XVI the river and the islands belong entirely to France. The inhabitants of the two banks have, however, equal rights of fishing in this part.

9. In the event of disputes arising between the natives of the two colonies they will be settled by the local authorities, French and British.

10. During six months, to count from the date of the present Protocol, the natives in the transferred territories shall be permitted to cross the frontier to settle on the other side, and to carry with them their portable property and harvested crops.

Made in duplicate at Pendembu, the 1st July. 1912.

F. N. LE MESURIER, *British Commissioner.*

SCHWARTZ. *French Commissioner.*