

"The Oregon Territory (*which then included Washington Territory*) is really valueless to England and to America. "The only use of it to America would be to make it an addition to territories already far too large for good government, or even for civilization. The emigrants to Oregon must pass through thousands of miles of unoccupied land, with a soil and climate far better than they will find on the shores of the Pacific. And when they get there, what will be the social state of a few thousand families, scattered through a territory more than six times as large as England, and three thousand miles from the seat of government? They will mix with the Indians, and sink into a degraded race of half-caste barbarians. If she could obtain sovereignty over the whole of the lands west of the Rocky Mountains to-morrow, every wise American statesman must wish that the next day they should sink into the sea." *Verbum sat.*

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Since writing the above I have been surprised to find, in a pamphlet just published by Lord Bury, the following remarks, under the head of "San Juan":—"Whether the decision be or be not satisfactory to us, it cannot be laid to the account of the Treaty now under discussion." Again: "Serious as may be the results to the Dominion of the award given by the Emperor of Germany, it must, I think, be conceded that the fortune of the question was neither made nor marred by the Treaty of Washington. The High Commissioners did nothing more than refer the meaning of a former Treaty to arbitration."

A reference to Blue Book No. 3, 1871, must, I think, satisfy his lordship that the fortune of the question *was* marred by the Treaty of Washington, and that the High Commissioners *did not* refer the meaning of a former Treaty to arbitration.