

any event for the Russians to extend back from the west line of the continent more than ten marine leagues. It is quite clear that a line was to be drawn so as to divide the coast of the continent from the islands of the Northwest, and that whenever the word "coast" is used it means the coast of the continent, as it is so mentioned at first in the third article and controls a subsequent reference to it.

It will be observed that the line of demarkation commences at the southernmost point of Prince of Wales Island, and that as stated it extends northerly through Portland Channel until it reaches the fifty-sixth degree of north latitude; then it follows the summit of the mountains situated parallel to the coast until such line intersects one hundred and forty-one west longitude.

Mr. Bruce, at page 219, in substance alleges that the United States' contention is that where a "defined range of mountains" is found running parallel with the coast, the summit of such range of mountains becomes the boundary line from fifty-six degrees of north latitude to one hundred and forty-one west longitude.

Senator Foster is reported to have made a similar statement when interviewed at Tacoma.

On the 26th of July, 1899, Senator George Perkins, just returned from Alaska, said: "Portland Channel is ours, and we should see that the line is extended along the summit as long as it does not lie to exceed ten marine leagues from the sea."

These admissions are strongly in favor of the British contention—the contention of the latter is that the substance of the contract is found in the third article of the treaty as above quoted, but that article does not contain the words "defined range of mountains," yet it does contain the words "shall follow the summit of the mountains"—not necessarily a continuous range; but Mr. Bruce having made this statement goes on to prove that between the points mentioned there is no "defined range of mountains," and therefore, failing this "defined range," which he has created for the purpose of his argument, that the contestants must fall back on article four, which he says provides for going ten marine leagues back from all the narrow serpentine fiords extending scores of miles into the interior.

At page 219 he says: "Nowhere along the coast between Portland Channel and Mount St. Elias does there appear to be a definite range of mountains, but rather a confused jumble having no regularity of course, or having any relation to each other; and the noble peak of Mount St. Elias that defines the boundary between the British possessions and our territory at the one hundred and forty-