

Such are the peculiar and the favoring physical conditions under which two great peoples of English tongue occupy, side by side, the North American continent from ocean to ocean, using in common this continental water-way, and by treaty stipulations interchanging with each other the use of improvements inside their respective boundary lines. From both sides, then, of this continental boundary line, inevitably and forever, will come here for transit into the world's commerce, the products of the vast plains and the mountain region of the far Northwest. On this line, also, to a large extent, will be made the commercial exchanges of the Pacific Slope, Australia, China and Japan.