

and acting on the great international policy of "honesty to all men," agreed with Lord Stanley, 10th Nov., 1868, to a protocol, by which the *meaning* of the first article of the Treaty of 1846 was referred to the arbitration of the President of the Swiss Confederation.

In pursuance of this protocol, on the 14th Jan., 1869, the Hon. Reverdy Johnston, charged with full power to this effect, and, no doubt, strengthened by the approval of his own Government, signed a convention with the Earl of Clarendon, referring to the Swiss President, the solution of the question, as to the true construction to be put on the first article of the Treaty of 1846, whether it meant the Haro Channel or the Rozario Channel, or the whole channel, or any intermediate channel.

Although this convention was recommended by the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs for ratification, it was never brought before the Senate, and the period, within which the ratification should have taken place, expired.

The fact is, that the Senate of the United States never could be brought to face the convention of 1869. That body gibbed and shied, and at last fairly bolted, leaving the Treaty which, by their national representative at the Court of St. James, had been pledged to win, in a very undignified position on the floor of the House. The force of contrast made the matter worse, for the preceding Treaty, that of 1846, had been sanctioned with suggestive alacrity, at that rate of lightning speed, euphonistically known as "slick"—three days only having elapsed between the signing, and sealing, and the ratification. Many reasons were assigned, diplomatically, for the collapse, but the best answer is to be found in the 36th protocol of the Treaty of Washington