

as turnips, potatoes, onions, rye, wheat, melons of various kinds, cucumbers, and every species of peas. In the course of a year or two, it was believed their interest would be promoted by cultivating and securing the friendship and confidence of the tribes inhabiting the waters of that great river; to which end, the town of Astoria was maintained by about thirty men, whilst the rest established themselves at five other points, to become fixed stations, to raise their own vegetables, trade with the natives, and receive supplies of merchandize from the general depot at Astoria, and to return to it the fruits of their labour. One of these subordinate establishments appear to have been at the mouth of Lewis's river; one at Lantou; a third on the Columbia, six hundred miles from the ocean, at the confluence of the Wantana river, a fourth on the east fork of Lewis's river, and the fifth on the Multnomah."

It is a fact, too notorious to be controverted, that England made no pretensions to rights in this country, till about the commencement of the late American war with her, when she had fully discovered its vast resources of wealth, and its advantages, so valuable for the possession of an agricultural, a manufacturing and a commercial people. In 1739, she made a public recognition of the Spanish rights to it, and treated with that nation for certain privileges on the coast.

Mr. Burk, an English historian, in his account of the European settlements in America, written in 1761, acknowledges the right of Spain to all the known territory on the west side of North America. "The Spaniards, as they first discovered the Continent, have the largest and richest share in it. All that part of it, which composes the isthmus of Mexico, and what lies beyond that, towards the river Mississippi on the east, the Pacific ocean to the West and North-west; and they possess all South America excepting Brazil." On a map attached