

Colonel McKay, a Scotch-Canadian, and Captain Rollette, a well-known French-Canadian adventurer, with a force of Indians, half-breeds, Orkney-men, and *voyageurs*,—the whole territory was ceded to the United States, as also the State of Maine, ours, “not only by right of war, but with the “consent and content of the population.”

“On the Pacific Ocean we gave up Astoria, on the south shore of the River Columbia, actually, at the time of surrender, in possession of British subjects. On the other hand, the Americans gave up nothing, for they had nothing to give, and had not even a sentry on the Canadian shore.” Had it been otherwise, England retaining her conquests for the cost of war, Canada would have had unfrozen seaports on the Atlantic coast, instead of being in the position of a growing lad, obliged to breathe through his nose because a stout neighbour sits on his mouth; and the Canadian Pacific Railway “would have been some 1500 miles shorter.”\*

6th. The Ashburton Treaty of 1842 ratified these inconveniences.

7th. In 1846 the United States got Oregon, it is said, mainly because the sporting commander of a British man-of-war reported that the salmon of the Columbian River would not rise to a fly. Common rumor is not invariably a common liar.

8th. And finally, the last Treaty of Washington (1871) has left the spread-eagle gorged. That bird is distended, but not inclined to doze.

He who said, “I care not who writes the history of a people, provided I write its ballads,” would have been

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\* NOTE.—“Quirks of Diplomacy,” by Lieut.-Col. Coffin, Commissioner of Ordnance and Admiralty Lands, Canada.