

“Neither in the course of the discussions of
“the Joint High Commission, which lasted two
“months, nor in any of the clauses of the Treaty
“for determining the proceedings and the powers
“of the Tribunal of Arbitration, as well as the prin-
“ciples which should guide it in its decisions, did
“England raise the least objection upon the nature
“of the American Claims. She rejected all alike,
“without making any distinction; and she declared
“herself ready to abide by the decision of the Tribu-
“nal. By what right, then, can England now insist
“upon reservations as to this or that category of the
“American claims, or upon the competence of the
“Tribunal to which she has agreed to refer these
“diverse claims. We can scarcely think that England
“will wish to incur the responsibility of a conflagra-
“tion, the consequences of which may be incalculable.
“To refuse to submit to the arbitrators the questions
“in dispute is either to doubt the impartiality of the
“Tribunal, or to withdraw in advance from a verdict
“which is foreseen.”—*Constitutionnelle*, February 6,
1872.

“The stipulations of the Treaty leave no one to
“doubt that the American Commissioners expressly
“reserved the right to present such claims, though
“nothing was said about the amount of the claims,
“the decision in that respect being left to the Tri-
“bunal of Arbitration. It sounds strangely when
“the English nation either sets down its representa-
“tives as dupes, or suddenly separates itself from