

less friendly; I do not mean as indicated by any of the official correspondence or steps between the two governments, of which I know too little to speak, but as manifested by public opinion, and the press, in both countries. International questions of importance to both, have been advancing to a point, and producing public discussions in both, under feelings inauspicious to either nation doing justice to the other. The Oregon question is one of them; and, at the present juncture, the most important. I have therefore been induced to publish an account of negotiations, in connexion with contemporary and explanatory matter belonging to them, which I conducted with England, over and above those described in the former volume, including the whole subject of the Oregon; and if by doing so, I may be able to contribute a mite towards awakening dispositions to calmer inquiry on both sides of the water, I should consider myself truly fortunate. I desire to pour oil on angry waves which seem beginning to heave; and however little may be in my power in this respect, the motive has strengthened me in the task undertaken.