

West Company in the years 1805 and 1806, and between that period and 1811 on the Columbia itself and on its branches. All these trading posts were occupied by the British North West Company, and were in full operation in 1811, when Astoria was founded, and consequently the territorial rights arising from these several settlements or trading posts could not have been affected by the establishment at Astoria. "From the year 1811, till the year 1818," to quote Mr. Packenham's words, "when the arrangement for the joint occupancy of the territory was concluded, the North West Company continued to extend their operations throughout the Oregon territory, and *to occupy*, it may be said, as far as occupation can be effected in regions so inaccessible and destitute of resources."

The contrast between Great Britain and the States with reference to settlement (the ground of all others the most important) is then not less remarkable than with reference to discovery. On the side of Great Britain we have a steady, uninterrupted, constantly increasing and general occupation of the Oregon territory, together with the establishment of numerous and important trading posts, as well on the Columbia and its tributaries as elsewhere. On the side of America we have in lieu of all this, one miserable post at the mouth of the Columbia, founded partly by the British and partly by the Americans, which consisted of "four or five rude log huts," and which after being occupied for about two years, was sold to the English, and abandoned by the Americans.

The Americans attach great importance to the surrender of Astoria to the United States by Great Britain, after it had been captured by the British during the war

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