

THE San Juan dispute forms an interesting chapter in the history of Northwest Washington, and is worthy of more than passing comment. The story of English camp, which is situated on Garrison Bay, on the northern end of San Juan Island, is full of romance and carries us back to the days of pioneer life.

Up to the date of the signing of the Webster-Ashburton treaty in 1842 which defined the boundary between the American and British possessions in the Northwest as the forty-ninth parallel of latitude, Great Britain had laid claim to all the country at least as far south as the Columbia river, and through the weakness of a vacillating policy at Washington and the privileges of a so-called "joint occupancy" she had been practically mistress of the vast territory that was then all called Oregon.

When, on the conclusion of the treaty of 1842, the great Hudson Bay Company were compelled to furl their banners, forsake their great stockaded posts, abandon their enormous fur trade and withdraw within the boundaries of British Columbia, it was sul-