

whatever party, can be so blind to the dignity of the crown, the honour of the nation, the integrity of the empire, or so reckless of the feelings and interests of a large portion of their fellow-subjects, as to give up a large tract of country, which is only a fragment of what is justly ours, but of which we have been deprived by ignorance and falsehood. The Empress Catherine of Russia said of England, that she invariably lost by the pen what she had gained by the sword. In all our territorial negotiations with the United States, we have had on our side profound ignorance of the country, great conceit in our diplomatic talents, an utter contempt for uncultivated lands, woods, lakes, and rivers, and a vain-glorious affectation of generosity in giving up what we chose to consider worthless. To these singular qualifications for negotiation, we have had opposed, on the side of the Americans, local knowledge, and a deep conviction of the value and importance of the territory in question: to this were added, shrewdness to perceive and make available the weakness and ignorance of our negotiators, and an unscrupulous readiness to make any statement that would facilitate the attainment of their object, however inconsistent with truth and honour." The correctness of these remarks fully appears in the history of all our American negotiations. No compunction is felt by our adversaries in taking advantage of our local ignorance, or depreciating the country in dispute, however important it may really be, in order to insure its attainment. Sometimes an affected indifference is assumed, and it is pretended that one line of boundary is little preferable to another; and, fastening on the weakness, conceit, and vanity of the British negotiators, every thing is obtained on their own terms. A strip of land, more or less, they will urge, with consummate hypocrisy, is nothing to so great and generous a nation as that of England, but may be of some value to one of the states, and by rounding the territory render peace more durable by removing every possible cause of future dispute. The British nation must not allow this important matter any longer to be trifled with, or neglected:—*by many it is now believed, that Sir Francis Head saved a colony it was designed that he should SURRENDER!* A criminal inattention to the settlement of this boundary involves the safety of our transatlantic possessions. Never was there a time so auspicious for its final adjustment as the present. Well and eloquently has Mr. Urquhart said, "It is a vain and useless concession to make, that England must perish because America is unjust: England, the mother of nations, the parent of freedom, and the wielder of the trident, has her destinies within her own breast." The slavery in the south—the bloodhound war in Florida—the financial difficulties of

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