

the main land, that is suited to the use of a civilized people, or, in other words, to the establishment of a British Colony.\*

Such, then, is the country of which, by means of the North-West Company, the possession may be secured to Great-Britain; and upon the possession of which depends the future prosperity of the Fur Trade, and, with it, a most important source of political influence on the continent of North America; exclusive of the advantages which may be derived

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\* See Humboldt's Political Essay on the kingdom of New Spain, Vol. 1. p. 20; wherein it is stated, "that the government  
 " which should open the communication between the two oceans,  
 " by forming regular establishments in the *interior* of the country,  
 " and at the extremities of the rivers would get possession of the  
 " whole Fur Trade of North America, from the 48° of latitude  
 " to the pole, excepting a part of the coast which has long been  
 " included in Russian America. CANADA, from the multitude  
 " and course of its rivers, presents facilities for internal com-  
 " merce similar to those of Oriental Siberia. The mouth of the  
 " river Columbia seems to invite Europeans to found a fine colony  
 " there; for its banks afford fertile land in abundance covered  
 " with superb wood."—London edition, 1811.