

own advance in social position and means of acquiring its comforts, if not its luxuries, the spread of our free institutions, equal laws, and holy religion? We desire an enlarged sphere for commercial enterprize, new markets for our manufactures: these every fresh colony supplies in its measure. If then the Oregon be what it appears to be—if its climate, soil, agricultural and commercial capabilities be as represented—why leave its future destiny to time and circumstances? Where, it may well be asked again, is the enterprising spirit of our Raleighs and Grenvilles?—where the feeling of responsibility which prompted the disinterested Bray? To stimulate us to follow the former if not the latter example, let us hear what Mr. Wilkes says on this matter, and draw our own conclusions:—

“It is very probable that this country will become united with Oregon, with which it will perhaps form a state that is destined to control the destinies of the Pacific. This future state is admirably situated to become a powerful maritime nation, with two of the finest ports in the world, that within the Straits of Juan de Fuca and San Francisco. These two regions have, in fact, within themselves everything to make them increase and keep up an intercourse with the whole of Polynesia, as well as the countries of South America on the one side, and China, the Philippines, New Holland, and New Zealand on the other. Among the latter, before many years, may be included Japan. Such various climates will furnish the materials for a beneficial interchange of products, and an intercourse that must in time become immense; while