

terms for obtaining, from Vancouver's Island, a supply of coal for their steamers, are absolutely at this moment procuring it from England? There is coal in rich abundance lying close at hand, and yet they are compelled to transport supplies fifteen thousand miles across the ocean, because the affair has been so managed that the coal in the English territory belongs to *no one*. Not thus do the Government of the United States appreciate the value of that magnificent country. We are engaged in these contemptible squabbles; the enterprise of young men who would have gone out and planted the English name and power on those shores is trammelled and shackled by the mystery and obscurity of the Government in Downing-street. You may see them walking eagerly and hopefully up that dismal alley towards the recesses of the temple. You may see them coming back with fallen crest and puzzled look, scratching their heads, as if they had heard a response from the Delphic oracle. But what is America doing all the time? No sooner is the treaty signed by which their portion of the territory is settled to them, than they establish a Government; start a line of steam packets to Panama, in order to open a speedy communication with their new Colony; make a treaty for securing a passage across the Isthmus; negotiate for buying up all the property of the Hudson's Bay Company in their territory, which the treaty entitles them to do. They pursue an energetic career of improvement of their territory, and the first check which is given to their striding enterprise is the impossibility they find in getting us to sell them a little coal from our part of the territory, in order to save them half the world's transit.

Lord Grey will, perhaps, reply that he has more than thirty Colonies to think of: the United States only one. Indeed it is too true; but it is a strange apology to make, for the blundering administration of the Colonial Minister of a great Empire, that his Lordship is like

"The little old woman that lived in a shoe,
And had so many children she didn't know what to do."

It is reported that it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to proceed with this grant in spite of all opposition. It is said that the Hudson's Bay Company are proceeding with their arrangements as though the affair were privately settled. What changes the Committee of the Privy Council may think proper to make in the charter, it is impossible to conjecture; but we sincerely hope they will suspend it altogether until the next session of Parliament.

Should it be otherwise—should the Hudson's Bay Company get their proposed, or any other, charter, it is not our part to dissuade any persons from taking advantage of whatever prospects may be offered, or whatever promises may be held out, to induce them to become Colonists under the authority of the Hudson's Bay Company. Our own opinion is unchanged; and, abiding by that opinion, we confidently predict, that, before five years are elapsed, either the Crown will be under the necessity of resuming the grant so rashly bestowed, because no use will have been made of it, or the more serious trouble will arise of an appeal on the part of the settlers against the arbitrary government of the Company.