

with the words or provisions of the treaty, viz. "liberal equity and reciprocity, so that partial advantages (those seeds of discord) being excluded, such a beneficial and satisfactory intercourse may be established, as to promote to both the blessings of perpetual peace and harmony," it was thought desirable to take such steps, and adopt such measures, as appeared best calculated to effect a settlement of the boundary, on principles of "liberal equity and reciprocity," with a view to terminate this long-protracted dispute; and in compliance with the provisions made by the fifth article of the treaty of Ghent of the 14th of December, 1814; and to the first article of the convention concluded between the respective governments of the United States and Great Britain, at London, on the 29th of September, 1827, the whole matter was left to the King of the Netherlands to decide. His decision gave five-sixths of the territory to the United States; but nevertheless it gave an excellent, well-defined, and easily ascertained boundary—it preserved the link between the British provinces—kept the communication open to the sea—and excluded the Americans from their too great proximity to the St. Lawrence, for the free navigation of which (another "source of discord") they would soon contend. It is impossible to read the eloquent and convincing exposition of Mr. Urquhart, and not feel convinced that the most criminal abandonment of national duty and honour attaches itself to the minister that did not insist on the establishment of the award made by the arbitrator appointed by the respective parties interested in the affair. The surrender of the territory demanded by Maine would be to girdle the Canadas, and by carrying the boundary nearly to the banks of the St. Lawrence, and 120 miles along and parallel with it, and at the average distance only twenty miles from it, form a perfect wedge between the British provinces in North America, and thus interpose a complete barrier for many months in the year to their communication with the ocean; how far this is in accordance with "liberal equity and reciprocity" may be judged. This injustice and pertinacity, so conspicuous on the part of the American authorities in this matter, stands in strong and striking juxtaposition to the magnanimous conduct of the British government on a similar, and, if possible, more important occasion,—the boundary to the Kennebec river, (the nearest and most natural outlet of the Canadas,) which was claimed by and yielded to the French previous to the conquest of Quebec, and which never should have been surrendered to the United States.

The British government will be fairly tested by the result of this boundary dispute; "it cannot surely be, that any administration, of