

Now the result of the survey upon which Captain Richards, of Her Majesty's ship "Plumper," has been lately engaged, as set forth in the inclosed chart, shows that in addition to the Rosario Straits and the Haro Channel, there exists a third navigable passage, connecting the Gulf of Georgia with Fuca's Straits.

This third channel is, indeed, reported by Captain Richards to answer, in respect of its central position and southerly direction, to the channel described in the Treaty; and assuming it to have been the intention of the Plenipotentiaries that the several channels connecting the Gulf of Georgia with Fuca's Straits should be considered, for the purposes of the Treaty, as one channel, it may fairly be argued that the central passage would not only satisfy the requirements of the Treaty, but would divide between the two countries, in proportions which each party might consent to, the cluster of islands by which the channel is intersected. The advantage of such a line would, indeed, lie with the United States: for there are only three islands of any territorial importance situated between the Haro Channel and Rosario Straits, namely, Orcas and Lopez Islands, and the Island of San Juan; and by the adoption of the central channel as the boundary line, the two first-named islands would belong to the United States, while only the Island of San Juan would remain to Great Britain.

Your Lordship will accordingly propose to the United States' Government that the boundary line shall be the middle channel in the continent of America and Vancouver's Island, as thus defined:—

"Starting from the north, in the parallel of $48^{\circ} 50'$ north, and the meridian of 123° longitude west from Greenwich (as laid down on the accompanying chart), the mid-channel line would proceed due south, passing half-way between Patos Island on the east, and the east point of Saturna on the west, to the centre of Douglas Channel, half-way between Waldron and Orcas Islands. Thence sweeping round to the south-west, south-east, and south, between San Juan on the west, and the Islands of Orcas, Shaw, and Lopez on the east, the line would rejoin the 123rd meridian as soon as the safety of navigation would permit, at about one mile to the southward of the Salmon Bank on the parallel