

every Englishman who is alive to the estimate which should be formed of the honour of his country abroad, to vindicate, according to his ability, those public acts of his Government which can be shown, by the test of truth and reason, to be founded in wisdom and justice.

The discussions which have taken place at home and abroad upon the merits of this Treaty, have not only suggested these reflections, but have prompted the author of these pages to endeavour to give a lucid and plain statement of the true meaning of the Treaty of Washington, for the purpose of correcting many misrepresentations respecting it that seem, for the most part, to have grown out of an imperfect acquaintance with the subject. He submits, therefore, to the public a short narrative of the circumstances which led to it, accompanied with a fair yet brief examination of its whole purport, having no apprehension of failing in his principal object, which is, to establish a general conviction that it is eminently consistent with the honour and interests of Great Britain.

It is a curious illustration of what has been stated, and may serve as a measure of the intrinsic value of this Treaty, that at its promulgation, it was simultaneously denounced both in Great Britain and in the United States of America, as an act by which Lord Ashburton

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