

Had the Treaty been thus read and thus acted on *ab initio*, had this dividing line been insisted upon from the first, we should possess now as a *right*, that which Lord John Russell proposed as a *compromise*.

For, take the Admiralty chart, and with a pair of dividers trace a line "commencing in the midst of the channel" on the line 49° and running southerly down the middle of the *said channel* which separates the continent from Vancouver Island following the curvature of the same, at all times equidistantly from the shore of the continent and of Vancouver Island, down to Fuca's Straits, regardless of all secondary channels, and of all rocks and islets by the way, and we produce a line in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the Treaty, running as nearly as possible through what is now known as the Douglas Channel, which would give to Great Britain the exclusive right to the Island of St. Juan and to the United States an equal right to Orcas Island and other fine islands, while the Haro Channel and the Rozario Channel and the Douglas Channel itself, and all other intermediate channels or passages, would have remained free and open to the navigation of both nations. It is difficult to conceive how any misconception could have arisen. We remember in our juvenile days, to have seen a quaint, highly colored, caricature of the younger Pitt, whose exhaustive budgets and marvellous exiguity of form had obtained for him the *sobriquet* of the "bottomless Pitt." The Chancellor of the Exchequer is addressing the House, with extended arm and flashing eye, while the excitement of the debate has disarrayed his garments, and exposed, irrepressibly, the lank contour of his frame. "Mr. Speaker," exclaims the orator, "Where there is a fundamental deficiency, why call for paper?" We apply the incident in the present case, and