longer. His opinions on the matter in question are therefore entitled to the greatest consideration. Mr. Fleming, in his late comprehensive Report, states, as one of the deductions derivable from the naval testimony furnished, taken in conjunction with the Admiralty charts, that the approach to Burrard Inlet by the south of Vancouver Island is through passages more or less intricate, between or at no great distance from islands known as the San Juan group.

The strategic or military objections to the Fraser Valley and Burrard Inlet route have, in the Dominion Parliament, been adverted to by Premier Mackenzie, and in his latest report (1877) by Mr. Fleming. However great the desire of the British for amity with surrounding nations, the contingencies of war are points that our statesmen are not accustomed to ignore, or dismiss the consideration of as of small moment. Friendly as the future relations of England and America may be, there is yet no sign of abatement in their existing intense commercial rivalry. It is hence of primary necessity, and clearly of the highest import to Imperial and Dominion interests, that advantage should be taken of the best commercial standpoint still remaining to Great Britain on the Pacific slope.

The Americans possess on the Fucan Strait, opposite to, and seventeen miles from Esquimalt, "Port Angeles," jocularly called "Cherbourg," and in the "U.S. Pilot," p. 188, termed "an excellent and extensive harbour." At page 190 of the same authority is the statement that "coal of fair quality is reported to have been found within three miles of the harbour." Port Angeles could, by a railway from 150 to 175 miles in length to Tenino, a short distance S.E. of Olympia, the capital of Washington Territory, be connected with the line between Tacoma, W.T., and Roseburg, Southern Oregon, ultimately, it is said, to be joined in California with the Central Pacific Trans-continental line.

A few years ago, when some American capitalists projected the North Pacific Railway line, and were having the Puget