

favour of England through the whole length and breadth of the country, while with regard to America it results merely in the strongest of all possible waivers, uniform and universal abandonment. Discovery is decisive in favour of England as to the Southern Valleys, the Northern Valleys (excepting Bulfinch's Harbour), and as to the right bank of the Lower Columbia with the basin of the northern branch, while, even if not altogether forfeited by the delay not merely of enforcing the claim, but even of making it, it requires to be liberally construed in order to give in any sense to America what it does not exclusively give to England.

England, therefore, will forego much of her equal rights, if she consent to draw the common boundary of the Lower Columbia to the fork, and thence along the height of land that separates the two great branches of that river.

But though England (for there are limits even to the noblest magnanimity) may sacrifice her equal rights, yet she cannot consistently sacrifice her exclusive claims, any more than America is justified by a generally excusable sensitiveness in urging so unreasonable a demand.

Finally, in England the value of the disputed territory is very much underrated. The southern half, it is true, will never be worth much to the Americans, whether as a nation or as individuals; for its only two harbours are hardly good for anything; and it is doubtless a consciousness of this,