

The same view too has been recently supported by a very great European authority. The *London Times* of the 11th November, 1872, contained, as translated from an Italian Journal, a letter from the Chevalier Negra, a scholar and statesman, now ambassador at the court of McMahon, whose name alone commands attention, strongly confirmative of the view taken above. He says :

“By the Oregon Treaty of 1846, English and Americans
“agreed that the 49th degree of latitude should form their
“boundary from the Rocky Mountains to the Gulf of Georgia, and that, from that gulf to the Straits of Juan de Fuca,
“the frontier line should run in the middle of the channel
“that separates the continent from Vancouver Island * *
“But is not the entire space, as I think, and as Capt. Pro-
“vost truly said in 1857, a channel like the English Chan-
“nel? and should not the boundary line, therefore, accord-
“ing both to the spirit and the letter of the Oregon Treaty,
“pass through the middle of the great channel, of course
“with the curves necessary to give to the English or to the
“United States, the undivided property of the islands
“through which a straight line would cut, according as the
“greater part of the Island was found upon the English or
“the American side of the line? I can discern no geogra-
“phical reason for dividing back, as the English might like
“to do, the line eastwards to the Rozario Channel; or, for
“pushing it over to the west to the Haro Channel, as was
“decided at Berlin. Neither in the first nor in the second
“case, is the line in the middle of the channel, and the
“channel comprises all the space between Vancouver Island
“and the continent, and is everywhere navigable, although
“the navigation be better in the broader waters of the
“Rozario and better still in those of Haro.”