

I am anxious that no doubt should exist, upon this subject, either in the house, or in the nation. Whoever considers the object of this bill to be any other than that, which has been avowed, is mistaken. Whoever believes this bill to be a means of peace, or any thing else, than an instrument of vigorous and long-protracted war, is grievously deceived. And whoever acts under such mistake, or such deception, will have to lament one of the grossest, and, perhaps, one of the most critical errors, of his political life. I warn, therefore, my political opponents; those honest men, of which I know there are some, who, paying only a general attention to the course of public affairs, submit the guidance of their opinions to the men who stand at the helm, not to vote for this bill, under any belief that its object is to aid negotiation for peace. Let such gentlemen recur to their past experience, on similar occasions. They will find that it has been always the case, whenever any obnoxious measure is about to be past, that its passage is assisted by some such collateral suggestions. No sooner do the cabinet perceive that any potion, which they intend to administer, is loathed by a considerable part of the majority, and that their apprehensions are alive, lest it should have a scowering effect upon their popularity, than certain under-operators are set to work, whose business it is to amuse the minds, and beguile the attention, of the patients, while the dose is swallowing. The language always is,—“Trust the cabinet Doctors. The medicine will not operate as you imagine, but quite another way.” After this manner the fears of men are allayed, and the purposes of the administration are attained, under suggestions, very different from the true motives. Thus the embargo, which has, since, been unequivocally acknowledged to have been intended to coerce Great Britain, was adopted, as the executive asserted, “to save our essential resources.” So also, when the present war was declared, against Great Britain, members of the house were known to state, that they voted for it, under the suggestion that it would not be a war of ten days; that it was known that Mr. Foster had instructions to make definitive arrangements, in his pocket; and that the United States had only to advance to the point of war, and the whole business would be settled. And now, an army, which, in point of numbers, Cromwell might envy, greater than that, with which Cæsar passed the Rubicon, is to be helped through a reluctant congress, under the suggestion of its being only a parade force, to make negotiation successful; that it is the incipient state of a project for a grand pacification!

I warn also my political friends. These gentlemen are apt to place great reliance on their own intelligence and sagacity. Some of these will tell you, that the invasion of Canada is impossible. They ask where are the men,—where is the mo-