

Lord Derby's warnings, from one concession to another. Our attitude, which at this moment should have been bold, honourable, and intelligible, is equivocal and all but ignominious. Sooner or later, at a less favourable opportunity than that which we have allowed to let slip, we must speak out courageously, or submit to concessions that will earn for us the contempt of the civilized world. The momentary success of the Government in persuading credulous admirers that the danger by which we were menaced is passing away, is due merely to a policy of procrastination that has temporarily averted an evil day. Deaf to the warnings of the past, the Cabinet seems still to cling to the belief that our difficulties with the United States can yet be surmounted by

means of a policy of conciliation; and indeed whether it is still possible that ultimate measures of common sense, involving the abandonment of this foolish and feeble policy, may avert the dangers by which we are at present encompassed, is a question to which, without knowing as yet how far the Government has already committed us, we should shrink from giving a reply. But taking a broad view of the relations that have subsisted between this country and the United States for the last fifty years, we must confess that politicians, who still look hopefully to a future depending on the continued influence of conciliation in our further negotiations with that Power, display a confidence which no experience will teach, and which borders on downright folly.