

all other nations from the entire continent. "An ocean-bound republic" will only satisfy the ambitious cravings of these gentlemen, (Mr. Dixon, and Ireland.) Yes, and Ireland, too; and some have been so valiant as to propose to capture the island of England itself. Indeed, gentlemen declare publicly on this floor that the matter in controversy cannot be settled by a reference, because there is no one of all the nations of the earth but what is hostile to us. This is sheer madness. We have Mexico on our southern frontier ready to attack us at any moment when she can do so with success. The President has deemed it wise to say offensive things in relation to France, and yet, in the midst of our most serious difficulties with England, we are defying the rest of the world, and inform them that the entire continent is ours. By what title I know not—by what patent, derived from the Almighty or elsewhere, I cannot imagine. I know of none but the heathenish and absurd idea of *destiny*—"manifest destiny!"

Mr. Chairman, I think the Administration greatly in fault in the course which they have pursued on this subject. If there is the probability of an amicable settlement of this matter—if there are any facts within the knowledge of the Administration which show there will be no war, and they mean to pursue such a course as will lead to peace—why are the leaders of the Administration party in this House and elsewhere alarming the country by these warlike indications?—why this strange accompaniment to pacific arrangements?

If there are no such facts in the knowledge of the Executive—if they do not mean to negotiate and settle this difficulty—why are the defences of the country in this miserable condition? Are no preparations to be made for a possible collision? Is the war to be a war of words? Why are no arrangements made for arming the fortifications—for the increase of the army, as there have been for the partial and very inadequate increase of the navy—for putting the country into a state of complete defence? I shall rejoice to give my vote for any such measures. Any appropriation, to any amount, recommended by the Executive for these purposes, will meet with my most cordial support; and, so far as I know, that of my political associates in this House. And although I consider a war entirely unnecessary, and one which can come only by the worst possible management on both sides, yet there is sufficient danger of it to require the most active measures, and the most decided and thorough preparation. If war must come, we must and shall all stand by the country; but "woe to that man by whom the offence cometh."

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I will state a few words as to the course which I shall deem it proper to pursue. Although I and those whom I represent here are opposed to a war, and to all war measures, and although we believe them wholly unnecessary, and although we shall hold responsible for the war, if it come, the Administration and those who advocate and urge the adoption of these measures, it is not necessary for me to say, that, in the hour of need, Connecticut will not be found faithless. She has never been so in the hour of danger. Her patriotism, her courage, and spirit of sacrifice, have not been expended in idle boasting. It is a matter recorded in history, and undisputed, that, during the war of the Revolution, no State contributed, in proportion to its numbers, so much of blood and treasure as Connecticut; and, during the last war, no troops were more valiant. I have my witnesses at hand. The distinguished chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs has already given his testimony in an

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