

war. This abrogated, from which she derives such enormous advantage. I am, therefore, in favor of authorizing this notice to be given, and I would empower the President to give it *now*, because I believe a neglect to give it will ultimately lead to the most evil consequences.

I can well imagine a state of things that would have rendered this notice unnecessary, and perhaps improper, as a present measure. If this Oregon question had not been so unfortunate as to fall into the vortex of party strife; had it not become connected with the business of President-making and political gambling, as an immediate measure I would not urge it. I would have suffered it to progress under calm, but firm and prudent, negotiation, without excitement, without declamation, manufactured to order for party purposes; and, ad interim, I would have seen our untiring, energetic, indomitable people, going to that country, and every year, and month, and day, would have been adding strength to our possessions there. Soon, and very soon, too, the country would have become the home of our friends. Our fathers would have been there, and our brothers, too; our blood would have been there; those hardy pioneers, so worthless and useless, in the eyes of the gentleman from Virginia, [Mr. PENDLETON,] who would expatriate themselves, would have been there; and between our hearts and their hearts would have existed a chord of friendship and sympathy vibrating at the touch of each breath of intelligence passing between the two countries which never could have been severed by the distance that divides us—the height of the mountains which separate us, or the power of nations that oppose us. But this peaceful, quiet, natural course of events, has been interrupted and prevented. This emigration has been checked, if not stopped, and this question has been prematurely forced upon the country, by some of those persons, too, who now seem most to dread its consequences.

I allude to these things, for no other reason, Mr. Chairman, than to show why I think this notice should be given *now*. I do not advert to them in order to make any partisan remarks, or for the purpose of reproaching those who, in my humble judgment, have "sown the wind."

It is, perhaps, a sufficient punishment for them that they are, in common with others, so soon compelled to "reap the whirlwind." But I desire to say that I am in favor of adopting such course of action as will end this controversy; such a course as will hasten negotiation, and bring this question to a full and final adjustment.

Let us then give this notice. After the necessary time has elapsed, and the treaty is abrogated, we can assert, and, if necessary, maintain our rights as far as they are "clear and unquestionable;" farther than this I do not desire to go. If the sovereignty of the country, and the right to its occupation, belong to us, as far as the 49th degree north latitude, as it is admitted they do, why should we divide the country, and the use of it, below that parallel with any nation? Why should we, south of this line, enjoy but one *half* when the whole is clearly ours? Why continue in existence longer a convention which gives to Great Britain advantages equal with ourselves in a country to which she has no right. Annul this treaty; demand what clearly belongs to us; possess and enjoy that which we have a right to, and we have nothing to fear. In this spirit, the treaty being abrogated, we should extend our laws over our citizens in that country—giving