

that 'an end has been put to all negotiation on the subject,'—that it is the unalterable determination of the president to execute the treaty,'—'the time cannot possibly be prolonged,'—'another day beyond the time named, cannot, and will not, be allowed you.' The writers say, 'we will not attempt to describe the evils that may fall upon you, if you are still obstinate, and refuse to conform to the requirements of the treaty,'—'we will not paint the horrors that may ensue in such an event.'

It will be readily conceived that declarations like these, emanating from such a source, our country already filled with troops, cannot fail to fill our minds with consternation and surprise. What have we done to merit such severe treatment? What is our crime? Have we invaded any one's rights? Have we violated any article of our numerous treaties? Have we, in any manner, acted in bad faith? We are not even charged with any such thing. But we are accused of 'labouring under a dangerous error,' and of being 'duped and deluded by those in whom we had placed implicit confidence.' 'Your pretended friends,' say they, 'have proved themselves to be your worst enemies.' But what is our 'dangerous error?' What is our 'delusion?' Is it a 'delusion' to be sensible of the wrongs we suffer? Is it a 'dangerous error' to believe that the great nation, whose representatives we now approach, will never knowingly sanction a transaction originated in treachery, and to be executed only by violence and oppression? It cannot be. Is it a "delusion" to assert that the makers of that ill-omened compact were destitute of authority? This fact we are prepared to prove by incontestible evidence. Indeed, it is virtually admitted by the parties themselves, and the very fact, that an armed force should be put in requisition to defend their persons, and to compel our submission, argues, not obscurely a defective confidence in the validity of the compact. Is it obstinacy to refuse our assent to an act which is a flagrant violation of the first principles of free government, and which sets its foot on the neck of our liberties and our dearest rights? Are we to be thus frowned into silence for attempting to utter our complaints in the ear of our lawful and covenanted protector? Is it a crime to confide in our chiefs,—the men of our choice, whom we have tried and found faithful? We would humbly ask, in whom should we confide? Surely not in those who have, in the face of our solemn injunctions, and in opposition to the reiterated expression of our sentiments, conspired the ruin of our country, usurped the powers of the nation, framed the spurious compact, and by artifice and fraud palmed it on the authorities of the United States, and procured for it the recognition of those high functionaries.

And now, in the presence of your august assemblies, and in the presence of the Supreme Judge of the universe, most solemnly and most humbly do we ask—are we, for these causes, to be subjected to the indescribable evils which are designed to be inflicted on us? Is our country to be made the scene of the "horrors" which the commissioners "will not paint?" For adhering to the principles on which your great empire is founded, and which have advanced it to its present elevation and glory, are we to be despoiled of all we hold dear on earth? Are we to be hunted through the mountains like wild beasts, and our women, our children, our aged, our sick, to be dragged from their homes like culprits, and packed on board loathsome boats, for transportation to a sickly clime?

Already are we thronged with armed men; forts, camps, and military posts of every grade already occupy our whole country. With us it is a season of alarm and apprehension. We acknowledge the power of the United States. We acknowledge our own feebleness. Our only fortress