

has been spent since the foundation of our Government applied for their benefit—cannot defend their homes and their property against any attack from any quarter, then their degeneracy must be great indeed; but they can defend, and will defend themselves. To doubt their ability or their disposition, would be a base slander on their patriotism and their valor. Having the utmost confidence in both, I shall look, should the conflict come, for a repulsion of the enemy as signal as that which they received on the plains of New Orleans.

But from whence is this great British fleet to come—this fleet which is to sack and burn our cities—about which so much has been said? Will it be withdrawn from the protection, or rather subjection, of her colonies and possessions abroad, and from her disturbed and discontented millions at home? No, sir; she dare not withdraw her fleets and armies from her India possessions. Her one hundred and fifty millions of down-trodden subjects in that quarter are a dangerous material; one that only requires a few ardent and bold military leaders to enable them to give employment to all the power which she can muster in that quarter. Let us furnish them with a Boone, a Croghan, and a Wayne; and if they don't keep all the naval and land power of England in that quarter of the world in employment, I am much mistaken. But how stands the matter with reference to her home squadron? Dare she withdraw her forces from her home possessions? Look at old Ireland: behold in her bosom the accumulated elements of explosion, which have been gathering there for ages; elements that will soon explode war, or no war. Look at seven-eighths of her population, panting for an opportunity to strike a blow for "repeal." Instead of daring to withdraw, she would have to multiply tenfold her forces in and around that island; and even then the well-known battle-cry of

"Hereditary bondsmen, know ye not,

That he who would be free, himself must strike the blow,"

would come thundering from every hill and from every vale, and one great, united blow would sever forever the bonds of union, which every true-hearted Irishman hates "with a holy hatred." Let us now withdraw from the "green sod," cross the channel, and look for a moment on that terrible revolutionary mass found in her factories and workshops. Look at their dependence upon our cotton fields for employment, and consequently for bread. See the difficulty which the Government now has to keep them in subjection, although they now have an uninterrupted supply of the raw material, out of which they make their scanty subsistence. Stop this supply for six or twelve months, and how many troops could they withdraw to send here; or rather, how many thousand, in addition to what they now have, would be required to keep in subjection this terrible mass? Every attempt to keep them down would be hopeless. They would force any Minister into a peace in sixty days after the stoppage of the cotton mills. "Give us bread, give us peace that we may earn it, or give us blood." These would be the cries that would greet the ear of a Minister from every quarter of the kingdom. Would the Minister yield? Heave gentlemen, who have given this matter a passing thought, to answer for themselves. For my part, I doubt not that the almighty voice of the people can make their servants obey even in old England.

Let us now, in this examination of British safety in case of war with us, come nearer home. How stand matters in reference to the Canadas, and her whole North American possessions? Can she depend on a friendly reception even in this part of her household? Will she not here see that which will admonish her that "discretion is the better part of valor?" Look to the last attempt at revolution, and that by a mere handful of those who pant for freedom. The most brave, the most valuable portion of their population—that portion who harbor the most undying hatred of the home government, though most prudent and cautious, have never struck a blow. They await that which some gentlemen so much dread—a war between this Government and England. They are cool, prudent, calculating men, who well knew that the attempt at revolution in 1839 was folly; but let their prayed-for contest come, then you will see thousands of her yeomanry rush to our standard, and defend it with their last drop of blood. I claim that we who live adjacent to and on the frontier of the Canadas know the feelings and desires of our brethren across the border too well to be deceived. And permit me here to add, that the desire to be freed from British tyranny is not confined to the people proper, but has also found its way into their temples, their high places; that even "the watch dogs of the tower" are panting for the day—the hour of their deliverance. Should the conflict come, and the two armies on our northern border be brought face to face, a scene will be witnessed to which a similar one at Trenton was a mere miniature.

A word in reference to a substitute offered here for the resolution reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations. I have watched that substitute since it first made its appearance in the other end of the Capitol, being satisfied, from the first glimpse I got at it in the Senate, that it would constitute the platform upon which the secret and open enemies of the notice would plant themselves. That it will prove the rallying ground of the mass of the White party in this Hall is already apparent. When I looked to the fountain, or rather the State from which this proposition comes, I must confess that I was no little surprised. I had formed the idea that any proposition coming from that State would be characterized by that open, bold, fearless, and independent trait, which usually distinguishes their people. Not so, however, in this case. A more mean, cowardly, skulking, irresponsible proposition never found its way into this Hall. Sir, I loathe and detest it; from my very soul do I despise it; and I hope it may be met with the contempt it deserves from every true friend of Oregon. What would gentlemen be at? Do they desire to evade all responsibility, and put the whole on the shoulders of the President, and this, too, after arguing for weeks that this notice is nothing more nor less than a declaration of war; showing by their acts and deeds that they are desirous of putting the whole war-making power, which properly belongs to Congress, into the hands of one man? A pretty commentary this upon your twelve years' whining against the "one man power." I cannot, I will not, believe that such a course meets a response from the great mass of the gallant hearts of "Old Kentucky." They spurn the idea of shifting responsibility from their shoulders, and they

will yet spurn them in a fal

But the mo is yet to be t to give or no Whig logic war, just winds up with given "till a session of C power and re logic will ha turn round a dent, don't gi after we get might find it of our illustri racers."

One word n summing this ex still find the brethren who Hartford conspirators" have linal descend matters pertain a "good-God game," say th tie in accorda be followed by ees, we can tu say, Gentlem the fault of y notice too soon hands of all t "But look on again is a glori dent takes all tie, and the pe follow, why w that we, too, v were for Oreg that we acted a all the proceedi will show most stances, as wel

Should this s powers to per to Congress, a perform—if th gentlemen th no cowardly e the nerve th save the powe with that prot acts. But, sir, which I may t transfer power s tive departme to make treati President and S make, or abrog ways consisten the President a the provisions pre-existing on of both Houses pressed on all s treaty of 1818,