

consider it unreasonable that those persons should feel that it is, to say the least, somewhat unsatisfactory that they should be liable to be plunged into all the horrors of war, on account of matters in which they may consider that they have no concern, or on account of proceedings which they might be more disposed to censure than to support, but in respect to which they are not allowed, having no voice in the conduct of the Imperial Government, to express any opinion; for whilst the humblest voter on any electoral roll in England can, through his representative in Parliament, bring his views before the Government and his influence to bear on their action, these 8,000,000 colonists, subjects of Her Majesty, have no voice whatever on a subject of the most vital importance to them, and which may lead to the taking of their lives, and the destruction of their property, not from any action or fault of their own, or of their own Government, but solely because they are subjects of the Queen of England.

This, sir, is a question for a statesman to deal with, and one upon which the maintenance of the great Colonial empire of England will ultimately depend. These Colonies have grown into importance, many of them have come into existence, since the last great maritime war in which England was engaged (for the Crimean war was under circumstances which prevented Russia from injuring the Colonies); and the action of England towards her Colonies three-quarters of a century ago can safely be taken as a precedent for the future; nor will it suffice to say in an offhand manner to these Colonists, 'You are subjects of the Queen of England, and you must take all the consequences of such connection,' for such a statement would at once suggest the action to be taken to avoid those consequences—action that would only be hastened by such offhand and unreasonable treatment.

Although it would not constitute a full or final settlement of this question, I believe that a great deal of good would result from the formation of a Council, of advice not of control,