

ican people to enforce their rights and repel aggressions. Talk of whipping this nation ! Sir, it is folly—the height of folly. I have not been brought up in the tented field, nor accustomed to make war an exercise, and do not so much thirst for marshal renown as to desire to witness such a war as America and Britain would make. Sighing and moaning would be its consequences; deep affliction would locate itself in the cities, towns, and rural scenes of our widespread country. Notwithstanding all this, I cannot fear the war, nor doubt its success on our part, should we be forced to meet it.

The gentleman from Ohio, (Mr. GIDDINGS,) had brought several other topics into view; and I believe that he would suffer much if he did not say something about abolition and slavery. As he is now delivered of his tiring load, I hope that he will not again impose upon this House similar remarks. I do not wish to say anything against the South. No, God forbid; for she has too often displayed her patriotism on the battle-field, and her devotion to democratic principles. I do not, sir, desire to witness the shock of war, its pomp and parade, and its bloody fields; nor do I ever wish to hear the shouts of those triumphs which I feel that we should achieve in this struggle; but I do hope that we shall never submit to British dictation.

When I was a boy, sir, a small boy, in 1815, I was with my father at church, where he was offering his prayers to the Almighty; and it was then that the news of the victory of New Orleans reached the spot. I never felt so happy as at that moment. At that moment my love of country commenced, and from that hour it has increased more and more every year; and I shall be ever ready to peril everything in my power for the good of my country. Sir, I do not fear, if the resolutions now being debated are adopted, that war will be the result. Will Great Britain make war upon us for taking and using that which is our own? Will she do this, when the treaty itself provides that either Government may terminate the joint occupancy by giving notice? If she desires to have a war, let her see to it. Sir, I am for the whole of Oregon, and for nothing else but the whole. Should it require of us, in self-defence, to make bloody the decks of our ships, crimson our rivers from their mountain sources to the ocean, and cover our land with the slain in battle, we are prepared for the sacrifice.

I cannot hold the idea that some gentlemen do, that Britain could defeat us; the thing is impossible. Why did she not conquer us in former struggles? Because we were struggling for liberty and the rights of man. Our efforts were aided by the Ruler of the destiny of nations, and the