

the American forces. England, indeed, would not doubt that upon land we are her superiors.

In a war by sea she must suffer far more than we. She has substantially the carrying-trade of the world, reckoning what she robbed from us during the War of the Rebellion by the aid of the rebel cruisers which she sent from her ports, and for the doing of which she humbly expressed her regrets in the most formal manner in the treaty at Washington as a preliminary to be allowed to treat with us, as follows :

"And whereas Her Britannic Majesty has authorized her high commissioners and plenipotentiaries to express, in a friendly spirit, the regret felt by Her Majesty's Government for the escape, under whatever circumstances, of the "Alabama" and other vessels from British ports, and for the depredations committed by those vessels :

"Now, in order to remove and adjust all complaints and claims on the part of the United States," etc.

Our letters of marque and reprisal (for we did not agree to the treaty of Paris, which England pressed us to adopt at the beginning of our Civil War and which put privateering under the ban of international law) would swarm out of every port, and sweep her commerce from the ocean. One thing is certain : If our ships are not as heavy as hers, they are swifter and lighter heeled, which her commercial marine would find out to its cost.

These are a few of the reasons why I cannot conceive that we can ever have a war with England ; and because, also, we shall never demand anything of her but what we believe to be right, nor submit to anything from her which we believe to be wrong.

Much criticism has been expended upon President Harrison because of the honest, manly, firm, and unflinching declaration that no interference with our rights would be permitted while our case was being tried. This was called "Jingoism," and it was said that it was only done by him for selfish political purposes. The change of a single word in all that makes it high praise. It was manfully done for the *politic* purpose to maintain the honor and dignity of the country. And it has succeeded, as in the history of our diplomacy such manful presentation of our rights has always done. Let us recall to the mind of this generation that when we have had great men for Presidents, our rights have always been thus presented to every nation which has undertaken to baffle

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