

dominion of our flag, but also with the sacred, higher mission of spreading the gospel of democratic self-government, religious liberty and equal rights over the entire confines of the continent. That the curse of slavery could not have been eradicated from North American soil, that the great iron highways would not now extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the far north to the Mexican Gulf, that the furnaces and mills of the east would not have been busy in supplying the needs and wants of a vast empire, and our Chicago would not have been able to rise to the grandeur and power of the present day, had it not been for this extension of territory, is a probability amounting almost to a certainty.

The successful extension of our dominion, the complete amalgamation of the vast territory thus acquired with the United States, the comparative ease and speed with which large populations belonging to the Latin race have intermingled with, and been welded to, the great bulk of our Saxon population, now forming one mighty, and for all practical purposes homogenous nation, the grand results thus accomplished, both from the standpoint of material prosperity, as well as of moral, intellectual and political progress, furnish the very best proof of the absolute correctness of the established policy of the United States with reference to this continent. And this policy has been carried out, despite the doubts and, oftentimes, the opposition of some of our greatest political thinkers; carried out because in it lies the realization of the historical destiny of the republic.

Daniel Webster, in a speech at Faneuil Hall as late as the 7th day of November, 1848, exclaimed:

“And let me ask if there be any sensible man in the whole United States who will say for a moment that when fifty or a hundred thousand persons find themselves on the shores of the