

shapen "pauper," whose joints are so loose and ill-fitted that she totters to her fall and is incapable of standing the shock of a war with this country. He sees, of course, but little difficulty or danger in such a war. If such language could have any effect, and we were seeking to provoke war with England, it would be appropriate enough to the purpose; but even then there would be no policy in thus underrating an adversary, or deceiving ourselves as to his power and prowess. It would be much wiser to overrate the danger of the conflict, and prepare like men to meet it. England is a great, powerful, and valiant nation; and to deny it would be but to show our ignorance and folly. We ourselves are but part of the same warlike race. England fears no enemy, and we fear not her. But there is in this no reason why we should seek war with each other. Our common origin and common character, independent of other considerations, should rather operate as bonds of mutual respect and friendship. But whenever the conduct of Great Britain shall make it necessary or proper for us to meet her in the field, in the defence of our rights or our honor, we shall be ready for the encounter; and shame be to him who then stops to count cost or danger.

Mr. President, the Senator from Arkansas, (Mr. ASHLEY,) as I recollect, deprecated all appeals to the "horrors of war." He insists that it is an unfair mode of argument and seems to fear that it might agitate our nerves and frighten us from his favorite line of 54° 40.

I shall not, for myself, say a word about those "horrors of war." Indeed, I so far concur with the Senator as to agree, that, when war becomes necessary, we ought not to be deterred from it by the mere consideration of its horrors.

To relieve us, however, from all alarm and panic, that Senator assures us that war with all its "horrors," can do us comparatively but little mischief, and especially that it will not diminish our population. To verify this statement, he referred us to certain cypherings and calculations of his, by which it appeared, and no doubt correctly, that according to the natural increase of our present population, four hundred and eighty-one males per day attained the age of eighteen years, and supposing the war to destroy these, and no more, the conclusion is arrived at that war will not diminish our number or impair our strength—that, at the end of it, our population will be just as numerous as it was at the beginning. The gentleman's arithmetic seemed to be good, and yet there was one little circumstance which he seemed to have overlooked, and which might very materially affect his calculations. It was this: that he saved only the old men, and that it might, therefore, admit of serious and sober doubt how long they could exactly keep up that natural increase on which his tables seem to have been founded (Great and continued merriment.)

It is not a little singular that a gentleman who deprecates so much all mention of the "horrors of war," should himself have brought forward or used any argument or calculation that could suggest ever so remotely an idea so overwhelming and extravagant as the destruction and slaughter of the entire youth of the country. I know that the gentleman has used it as a mere hypothesis on which to make his calculations, but even in that form it suggests a more terrible idea of war than all else that I have heard of. But, sir, none of these painted or imaginary horrors frighten or move us. When war becomes necessary for the vindication of our rights or honor, we will make it and meet it like men, and through all its horrors we can then look to the glory that is beyond. Such a war as that you may rely with confidence upon the patriotism and courage of our countrymen. With the generous ardor of their age, the whole youth of the country will, at your summons, rally around the standard of their country. I can answer for those that I more particularly represent—the youth of Kentucky. They will take the field at the first signal. But I do not want to see their brave young blood, that ought to be as dear to me as my own, wasted and poured out in idle, foolish, or unnecessary war. In a good cause—a proper, patriotic war—you will have them all; and not the only, but the youth of the whole land. They will all come up to fight your battles; not all, I trust, to perish, according to the fatal hypothesis of the Senator from Arkansas, but to conquer in the righteous cause of their country. Those that perish in such a field will die nobly, and Victory will wipe away the tears their Country must shed for their fall.