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ert in improving her commerce with barbarous
 nations, for no commerce was more profitable.

The Indian traders, as it was well known in our
 country, always reaped rich harvests. Great Brit
 ain knows the value of Oregon, and I believe that
 she will fight for it; and I know that the American
 people will fight for it. The harbors of Oregon,
 opening a barbarous world, afford admirable facili
 ties for carrying on trade; and barbarous nations
 are always the best customers of civilized people.
 Northern Oregon would also be a manufacturing
 country, for it abounded in water power. Califor
 nia will afford vast quantities of raw cotton for the
 supply of Oregon factories, and there is no difficulty
 in the navigation between Oregon and California.
 And so great is the supply of ship timber which
 Oregon furnishes, that more than half the ships of
 the world will in forty years be built in the northern
 part of that territory. The harbors of Puget's
 sound will afford naval stations, and through them
 we would soon command the whole commerce of
 the Pacific; without them, Oregon would not be
 worth a straw to us, for there were no good harbors
 south of Puget's sound; and the major part of com
 mercial and ship-building facilities are north of lati
 tude 49°.

My doctrine is, to go ahead and assert our rights;
 and as to the results, not to stop to calculate them.
 I will at least utter no boastful calculations as to the
 results. "Let not him who putteth on his armor
 boast himself as he who putteth it off." Even if
 we were certain that the results of a war would be
 first adverse to us, yet should we vote for the no
 ye, and the other measures consequent upon it.
 We may safely put our trust in the justice of our
 cause and in the kind protection of divine Providence,
 and the struggle must end like our former wars—in
 glorious triumph, and in the diffusion of our prin
 ciples.

The day will come when every interest and eve
 ry party that is opposed to Oregon will crumble in
 dust. I have heard some speculations upon the
 consequences of our extension of territory, and of the
 annexation of the Mexican and other states to our
 union. I do not want any mixed races in our
 union, nor men of any color except white, unless
 they be slaves. Certainly, not as voters or legisla
 tors. My constituents will never consent that their
 representative in this hall shall hold political discus
 sion with the honorable colored member from Mex
 ico. They know that this would lead to a political
 life for ascendancy between colors, ending in rev
 olution and blood.

If Mexico, after going through half a dozen more
 revolutions, should become capable of self-govern
 ment, and apply for annexation, I would vote
 against it, unless her colored races should come in
 slaves, or be otherwise excluded from political
 villeges. My constituents cannot agree to admit
 colored men to the exercise of the right of suffrage;
 and they cheerfully acquiesce in the representative
 system which the constitution has provided for the
 free-holding States. Independent States, com
 posed of white people thoroughly imbued with our
 principles of self-government, we will receive into
 our Union at their own request; but even then we
 do not wish to coerce into our Union, or to annex
 by conquest. If we find a stray independency float
 ing about, and wanting protection, we will take it
 up. When the volcano, sleeping in the bosom of
 the British empire, shall burst forth, and Canada
 will be lopped off, it might be a question whether it

shall be annexed to our Union. Should we con
 quer it, we will give it back to Great Britain; for I
 do not wish to annex her loyal Scotch and English
 people. Her Irish and French inhabitants I might
 be willing to unite with; but it would take fifty
 years to learn the Scotch and English of Canada,
 un-Americanized by association, the principles of
 our free institutions.

The Irish make good citizens. They take to lib
 erty naturally. Pat is an American from the word
 go. If Canada should ever become independent
 and capable of self-government, and apply for an
 nexation, we will think of it. But I would annex
 any part of the world where the American people
 go and settle, and form communities. We have
 done so, and we will do it again.

This, sir, (said Mr. W.), is a progressive question.
 Texas was so also; and if Great Britain wants a
 compromise with us, she had better speak at once.
 When the annexation of Texas was proposed here,
 I remember how fearful some gentlemen were in
 this House, that the people would not sustain it;
 but they soon found that the people were ahead of
 them on the question, and were almost unanimous
 for the measure. When gentlemen first take their
 seats here, they sometimes imagine themselves very
 wise, and think that wisdom will die with them;
 but after a while they begin to find themselves mis
 taken, particularly if they try often to get the floor. A
 little experience here has learned many a man not to
 be wiser than his constituents. The same lesson may
 be learned again. We annexed the territory of Texas.
 We, in the northwest, charge nothing for our assist
 ance in that matter. We went "on our own hook"
 on that question, and if we had not done so, Indiana
 herself would have gone and taken it with a rush.
 The people, as usual, are ahead of their representa
 tives; it was so on the Texan question, and it is so
 on this. If I should come back to this House at
 the next Congress, (and I think, perhaps, I may,) I
 shall find, I fear, that several of my excellent old
 acquaintances will not be here, and they will owe
 their defeat to their opposition to this measure.
 This, I say, sir, is a progressive question, and before
 this Congress is ended the days of compromise will
 be ended. So, you who are trembling at the thought
 of war, and reasoning as to the value of rights, had
 better yield and obey the voice of the people. The
 people alone have the right to do and command wrong.
 Your constituents at home, while you are debating
 this question, are going strong for Oregon. They
 expected that, before this, we should have provided
 measures for the protection of emigrants, our friends
 and brothers, and their wives and children; and
 that by this time they would be with their horses
 and wagons on the road to Oregon. We will have
 to do it, or the people will send representatives here
 who will obey their voice.

NOTE.—It would be totally unnecessary for Mr.
 Wick to explain any of his remarks to his own
 constituency, or to those who heard them. But his
 speech will be read by others, strangers to him, and
 his peculiarities of manner. To such, he has de
 sired us to say, that some of his descriptions were
 intended to be caricatures, and especially that his
 description of the mode in which the citizens of the
 northwest assert their personal honor is so highly
 a caricature, that the fact represented would not
 readily be guessed. The people of the northwest
 are essentially kind in feeling, peaceable, and mod
 erate in their modes of seeking satisfaction for per
 sonal griefs or insults.