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folly of a course, which should precipitate us into such a conflict. They consider war, even when necessary for the defence of the property or the honor of the nation, as a great and deplorable calamity. But such a war as this for the wilds of Oregon, they regard as not only disastrous to the lives and property of themselves and their fellow-citizens, but, at the same time, a reproach to the national character—a reproach to republican institutions. Let it be remembered, that among those who thus regard the war, are included the vast majority, if not the whole of the parties, who control the disposable capital of the country—the very parties on which the government, in such an emergency, must depend, in a great measure, for the supply of the immense expenditure necessary to maintain such a conflict. Most of these persons would feel very reluctant to assist the government in what they consider an unjust, impolitic, unnecessary and shameful war. Patriotism (and in this, I think, they are at least not behind the noisy vainglorious demagogues who urge us on to war,) would, no doubt, impel them to lend all the assistance possible, in case their country were menaced with invasion, to maintain a defensive war; but they would feel unwilling to assist in making aggressive war in such a cause, and they would, by their party action, impede the efforts of the executive. Besides this, it is to be apprehended that there is a party among us—not altogether despicable as to numbers—who would rejoice in the calamities which might befall their country in such a contest, as being the means, in their opinion, of hastening the accomplishment of greater good—as conducing to the more complete extension of liberty and equal rights to all the inhabitants of these States of every color. All these circumstances would tend less or more to paralyze the arm of government in the maintenance of a war for the whole of Oregon.

Let us now look to Great Britain. If forced into a contest with this country on this subject, in order to defend her national reputation, she would engage in the conflict with the unanimous and cordial approbation of all men of all parties who have any decisive influence over her counsels, and with the energetic co-operation of her wealthy and industrious classes. Her people would engage in the war with feelings of the strongest indignation against our government on account of what they consider the injustice, insolence and unreasonableness of the course which it has pursued as