

world. She has the prospect of alliances on our own continent, in consequence of the relations which the wisdom of "progressive democracy" has established between ourselves and Mexico; and, if we are to confide in the judgment of those gentlemen here, who seem disposed to take the management of this whole business in their own hands, she has the sympathy of all the crowned heads with her.

I do not wish to press this point; it is a delicate one. I must say, however, that, in my poor opinion, England cannot—and that, with a proper and prudent regard for her own public character and moral influence with the world at large, and especially within her own possessions, she *dare* not—submit to it. If she does, then she pockets an affront grosser than any to which she has submitted for eight hundred years past; and she does so precisely at the time when she is more able, than at any other period of her existence, to resist and resent it.

Nor is it at all consistent with her general sagacity to suppose, that she will quietly fold her arms, and wait our twelve months' preparation. I believe the notice will produce war inevitably, and *immediately*, on its being given.

And it is substantially avowed to be the object of gentlemen, high in the regard of the dominant party, to force the country into war. One gentleman in the Senate has said that he considered war inevitable, at the beginning of the session, *because he then thought it certain the notice would pass*; that he now considers it doubtful, because it is somewhat uncertain whether the notice can be carried. I did not understand that gentleman to say that he is for war; on the contrary, they all say they are not for war—but he says he is for the notice; and we have his authority for considering the notice certain and *inevitable* war. If the notice does not pass, that gentleman will not vote the proposed naval appropriations; for, in that event, there will be, in his own words, "profound peace."

Another distinguished Senator, whose position in the party is eminent—for he seems to be vigorously contesting the leadership with the old stagers—cannot be screwed down to the point of saying, that it will *not* produce war.

He will answer no further than to say that, "in his opinion, it will not be just cause of war." He does not seem to care at all about a war, if we do not give a just cause for it.

My opinion is, we should do every thing an honorable people and Government can do, to avoid it; and in this case the difficulty is, in my judgment, not how we may honorably avoid it, but how it is possible to get into it, in any other than a most dishonorable way.

England wants no war with us. She knows very well that she has nothing to make by it; and that, whilst she would inflict on us incalculable injury, she would suffer just as much, probably more, than ourselves. War may yet come out of this thing, and come fairly. I say, then, Sir, let it come. When we can stand justified before God and man—justified in our own consciences—we shall present an undivided front, an unconquerable force; conscious that we are right, with the sympathies of the world in our behalf, and the God of battles on our side.

But the inquiry which occurs to a practical mind is, will we get Oregon by a war? The honorable gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RHETT,) expressed opinions on this subject in which I entirely concur, and need not repeat. How is it to be done? If the object could be accomplished by a mere war of words, the thing might be practicable enough. If the Congress of the United States and the English Parliament would agree to set-