

dants of these, practically extirpated the previous sparse population, overran the country, cultivated it, made roads and railways through it, and built great towns. Therefore, it is theirs to do with as they will, and if they choose to say that they will not suffer the unrestricted entrance of your own population, even as peaceful settlers, you must submit, because nothing short of compulsion by force, which is war, could alter this resolve. Recollect that war is wicked, and abandon accordingly your national ambitions. Moreover, you must remember that some eighty years ago a president of the defendant Republic declared what is called "the Monroe doctrine," by which he asserted the intention of this Republic to prevent any non-American State from acquiring in future one foot of land in any part of the whole American continent. We are sorry that this intention should so completely frustrate your national desires, but it still holds, and it cannot be broken except by war, which the supporters of this Monroe doctrine, like their kinsfolk in England, consider to be wrong and do not want to have. Indeed they are not prepared for it. Therefore, go away, and be good."

Japan might say in reply: "That the defendant Republic is in present possession of the territory which it claims as its own, or that it has long enjoyed that territory, is no reason why we should be kept out of it now. They have had their turn and we mean to have ours. Let them keep us out if they can. As for their Monroe doctrine, it seems to us the most monstrous claim of which we have ever heard. We are driven to desire new territory by the strongest impulses which can animate a nation. Our population is increasing with prodigious speed. Our men are warriors. They have fighting blood in their veins. We love our country and we desire the increase of its power and its dominion with a passion which you pale Westerns seem no longer able to understand. We have made already great efforts and great sacrifices to secure the ascendancy of our race in coming time, and we are ready and eager to make greater efforts and greater sacrifices yet. We will win that ascendancy, or we will die. At this very moment we are absolute masters of the waters of the Eastern hemisphere of the globe. The waning fleet of Britain is tied to its own shores by the German menace. The fleet of the United States recently took four months to pass, during peace, from its Atlantic to its Pacific seaboard. It would require time still longer during war, because it could not coal at neutral ports. When it arrived, we think we could