

of the Pacific. V
 east Indies in half
 Our manufactu
 portant and increas
 Britain, and, indee
 thus they would b
 ndation, without t
 n them. He had
 orts by the gene
 pt this improve
 ary for the pub
 for civil and com
 y point of view,
 ould be far more e
 coast.
 delay to do the
 egion, the Briti
 ves of the delay
 ritory to her su
 y force and frau
 an hundred col
 d and carnage, an
 nations with whic
 y, or opposed to
 tell the whole st
 he reign of Quee
 rcial purposes wa
 adventurers. The
 desolation over th
 every crime, ever
 nd rapine was per
 itory and of wealt
 t prodigious wain
 became the theme
 rs and poets. Pro
 inectives against
 laden with horrid
 alk through earth
 e wretch;
 me,
 allel between the
 nson Bay Compa
 y of taking hold
 giving this notice
 had submitted to
 being reduced by
 force, until now
 away amounted
 y millions. The
 Hindostan, was
 a bounty. And
 the East India
 orce of her arms,
 jugate the last
 L. said he would
 his government
 me for that, he
 to end it was
 the attention of
 r to show that
 son Bay Com
 rinciples akin to
 rchments, be
 tions in Oregon.
 We might, as
 progress to the
 ed and desave
 re the Hudson
 y those waters

emptied into Hudson's bay. But still that
 company had, by virtue of a connexion with the
 northwestern Company, stretched across to the Pa
 cific. It was the policy of Great Britain to plant
 to maintain colonies, and one of the modes of do
 ing it was to operate through chartered companies.
 His policy she was now applying to the territory
 of Oregon, and it would succeed there as well as it
 had done elsewhere, unless we should interfere in be
 half of our settlers to protect them, and give the no
 tice of the termination of the joint convention.
 No longer ago than the year 1790, the British govern
 ment claimed the right to make settlements on the
 Pacific coast north of the Spanish settlements.
 It had taken place on the other side, and the
 encroachments of Great Britain were not observed.
 In length Great Britain had not only made settle
 ments above the oldest Spanish settlements, but also
 below them, and had now come down to the Co
 lombia river. Originally, her territorial pretensions
 are only to points beyond the old Spanish settle
 ments; but soon she would come down to forty
 miles of territory.
 [A member here said, she is nearly there now.]
 Yes, sir, (said Mr. H.,) she will soon be there,
 and if she is not there now. What, then, can be
 done to prevent her progress? The notice, which is the only
 means by which we can arrest her progress? Pro
 rogation had been said to be the thief of time;
 in English diplomacy, it had proved to be the
 thief of territory.
 While gentlemen talked of war, which only ex
 isted in the visions of old men, or the dreams of
 young ones—while this bugbear was held up, we
 were losing the opportunity to secure for our
 selves and our children this most important
 and valuable country. What now would arise, was
 an inference on the part of these gentle
 men. They had not shown how it would arise.
 They had not shown us the *modus operandi*. But we
 all know that the British pretensions would be
 lengthened by our eternal delay. The longer
 we delayed the notice, the more arrogant would the
 British pretensions become. One point more. Our old
 gentleman from Virginia says, see visions,
 young men dream dreams. He was not old,
 he could not see visions; and the dream he left
 the gentleman from Virginia. Let those who
 cannot imagine that a war will arise from our as
 sertion of our rights; he did not believe it. But
 that the aid of visions he saw a populous and en
 vying State on the slope of the Pacific, with man
 ufactures, and commerce, and navigation. The
 steamers rushing down to the Pacific would turn
 thousands of wheels and spindles. Our people would
 go to that region, and carry with them all their
 strength and skill in all the various branches of man
 ufactures which we have established in this region.
 The time they will supply a large portion of
 America, as well as Asia, with their fabrics.
 It would not be long before our settlements would
 tend down to the Mexican boundary. He appeal
 ed to gentlemen from the South to come up to the
 rescue, and avail themselves of this fair opportuni
 ty to obtain Oregon. He asked their attention to
 the position we occupied before the American peo
 ple and the world, in regard to this subject, and as

ured them that for us there was no retreat from
 the responsibility of this act, without incurring the
 just reproach of the people of the United States, and,
 indeed, of the whole world. The Executive had
 presented his views to Congress, and had recom
 mended to us the passage of the measure now be
 fore us. He had asked for our early action upon
 it. The stale cry of war ought not to prevent us
 from discharging this duty; and if we should falter
 in performing it, we should be branded as unfaith
 ful to our trust. The Executive had laid before
 us a statement of our just claims, showing that
 they had a solid and stable basis. The whole
 world would be convinced of their truth and justice;
 and would an American Congress be found slow
 to defend and assert them? He (Mr. H.) would
 appeal again to the South, and to the spirit of
 their fathers—of Sumter, Marion, and Pinckney—
 and call upon them to come up to this duty of de
 fending our soil. Should fear of consequences pre
 vent us from vindicating our rights from foreign
 aggression? Should the horrors of war deter them
 from pursuing their line of duty? Will they not
 come up to the struggle, if need be, and like "reapers
 descend to the harvest of death?" True, the South
 has peculiar interests that would be hazarded in a
 war; but has not the whole Atlantic border a deep
 stake in the continuance of peace? We, sir, in the
 northeast have an extensive commerce. Our ships
 are found in every sea, and we have cities on the
 seaboard exposed to the assaults of an enemy. But,
 sir, we are willing to hazard everything in the de
 fence of our country, and to lay all our wealth as
 an offering on the altar of the public safety. But
 who can believe, sir, that England will go to war,
 because we do an act that we are entitled to do by
 treaty stipulations? This was too absurd an idea to
 be for a moment entertained by any one.
 But there was another view of the subject. He
 did not pretend to be a wizzard, nor to foretell fu
 ture events; but coming events sometimes cast
 their shadows before them. Judging of the future
 by the past, he would say that the moral force of
 our institutions would spread themselves over every
 portion of this continent. Their progress was as
 certain as destiny. He could not be mistaken in
 the idea that our flag was destined to shed its
 lustre over every hill and plain on the Pacific
 slope, and on every stream that mingles with the
 Pacific. What would monarchical institutions do
 —what would tyrants do—in this age of improve
 ment—this age of steam and of lightning? The
 mariner's compass, the steam engine, the printing
 press, with the aid of electricity, which has anni
 hilated space, have made the world like the ear of
 Dionysius. The voice of freedom in our halls of
 worship, in our temples, and the knowledge of our
 schools, may be heard in distant lands, and will be
 echoed back. Let there be no holding back, no
 folding of arms in quiet; but let us rather, in a calm
 and dignified manner, meet the crisis in a way
 worthy of our country, and as American states
 men:
 "And the gun of our nation's natal day,
 At the rise and set of the sun,
 Shall boom from the far northeast away
 To the vales of Oregon;
 And ships on the sea-shore luff and tack,
 And send the peal of triumph back."