

" THE REMEDY—NON-INTERCOURSE.

" So would I do with England. If she will not make reparation for the wrongs done us during the war by her hostility, not by simply making good the millions that our merchants lost, but by making good all that the nation has lost, I would treat her as I should my vicious neighbour, who gave vent to his enmity by darkening my windows—declare that I would have nothing to do with her, that I would neither buy nor sell with her, or after due notice hold diplomatic or commercial relations with her henceforth until full reparation is made. Complete, thorough and stringent non-intercourse is the remedy. That is not war. That is not a *casus belli* under any suggestion of the law of nations. We have the undisputed right to trade with whom we please, or to refuse to trade with whom we please.

" ENGLAND DARE NOT TREAT US AS SHE DID CHINA.

" True, Great Britain, when the government of China refused to have its subjects poisoned by English opium, sent a fleet and forced the opium down the throat of the Chinese at the mouth of her cannon; but what publicist ever dreamed that that was done under any provision of international law, but only an exhibition of force? Besides, China had not been admitted into the family of nations. When the United States decides not to buy British goods until she settles the *Alabama* claims, I am willing to see Great Britain if she thinks best send her fleets to our ports to force us to take her manufactures of iron and wool.

" We know how to conduct a defensive war, whether by sea or land. I do not deem it either unmanly or unfair to say to England that she shall have none of our cotton or breadstuffs until this question is settled, although such deprivation to Manchester, Birmingham and Bradford might work a revolution in her government in six months. Nor would it be more unmanly or unfair to declare such non-intercourse, because now is our opportunity, inasmuch as Prussia and France will be ready, in recovering from their exhaustion, to take from us all the surplus that we have both of cotton and food for export, even if they become sellers of the first to England. Nor is it our fault if England's delays in doing us justice have postponed our demand for it till her complications with Russia have substantially put her at our mercy. The saving to the country by non-importation of British goods—the impetus given to our manufactures—the protection thus afforded to American industry, would very soon quite make good to us all that we have lost in money by the *Alabama* outrages. The United States government ought to assume and pay all that there is of ascertained loss to the individual citizens because of these claims, and then add the amounts so paid to its own great claim to be adjusted by Great Britain as a whole.

" THE DUE REPARATION.

" For, after all, the great injury and wrong is not one to be compensated in money. The better reparation to this nation would be for England to remove all opportunity or cause of collision between the two countries in the future. But those must always exist so long as England has a government under her control, and for the acts of which she is responsible, stretching from ocean to ocean, across our northern border, and for many hundred miles intervening between us and our newly acquired territory Alaska, and while she holds her naval stations and depots at Jamaica, Nassau and the Bermudas, from which our commerce and our coast can be menaced in any future war on this side the Atlantic. Therefore would I suggest that that which would best satisfy the people—that which would best meet the exigencies of the occasion, and that which England could part with herself in most honour, by showing a desire to take away all ground of possible unfriendly relations in the future—would be that she should withdraw her power from this Continent. I do not ask her to give us Canada and her provinces. I should be willing to assume all the *Alabama* claims and settle all possible differences between the two nations to-morrow if Great Britain will leave the Western Continent. Simply divorce herself from them and permit her provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and British Columbia each to settle for itself by the action of its own people what shall be its future. I am asked, will the provinces vote for annexation to this country? I am willing to take the risk that men and countries will act for their own best interests.