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## SPEECH

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# MR. HAMLIN, OF MAINE, 

## ONTHE

OREGON QUESTION.

DELIVERED

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

$$
\text { JANUARY } 12,1846
$$

WASHINGTON:

New
979.51

H223

Ar. HAM
a moment
Ar. J. R. endment ; which wa
rotted by $t$ United State President of zed to ope satiation with pose of term ch was nt th of Aug
Ar. HAMI committee he consider them, he momentous interests th affected for mong decision millions of 3 , and the Beating ch they we said by th setts, [Mr. : there had ald not be, a tres equal e.
fore proc question, ks to reply gentlemen first, he roily in the mediately pr and the court 1 it should b $r$, war, had oed over our ; body; and - these edh cared not w se walls-w where-he uts by that fore, and $u_{F}$ other end o there under cit that had t : a measure

## SPEECH.

Ar. HAMLIN obtained the foor, wut yielded it a moment to
4r. J. R. INGERSOLL, who gave notice of an andment which he should offer when in or; which was read as follows.
erolced ly the Scnate and House of Reprcsentatives of United States of America in Congress assembled, That President of the United States be, and he hereby is, aujized to open, at such time as he may deem expedient, a otiation with the government of Great Britain for the pose of terminating, by mutual consent, the convention ch was entered into letween the two governments on 6th of August, 1827.
Ar. HAMLIN resumed the foor, and addressed committee during the allotted hour. He came he consideration of the question now presentel them, he trusted, with a full understanding of momentous importance, and of the magnitude of interests tha: were committed to their hands to iffected for weal or for wo by the right or the ing decision of this question. The eyes of twenmillions of people were watching their action 3 , and the hearts of twenty millions of freemen 'a beating with anxiety as to the action at ch they weme finally to arrive; and it had been Isaid by the venerable gentleman from Massasetts, [Mr. Adans,] that for years that were : there had not been, and for years to come there ild not be, a question submitted to the American igress eqnal in its moment, equal in its impor--
fore proceeding directly to the discussion of question, he designed to refer, and in a few reks to reply, to positions which had been taken gentlemen who had preceded him in this debate. I first, he concurred most cheerfully and most rtily in the sentiments of the gentlemen who had nediately preceded him in relation to the characand the course the debate had assumed, and by 1 it should be diverted to no improper direction. $r$, war, had been shouted within these walls and oed over our vast country, to re-act again upon I body; and by whom, and on what authority - these echoes sent abroad through the land? cared not whether the shout came up within 3e walls-whether it was manafactured here or : where-he should not be diverted from his path uty by that stale and senseless cry. He had heard efore, and upon this same subject years ago in other end of this Capitol. When this subject ; there under discussion, it was ine same masterrit that had then raised this cry of war, war to de: a measure extenaing our laws over the Oregon

Iterritory. He referved to a bill preparcil by the late and lamented Doct. Linn. Why wasit that gentiomen assumed this position?-a position which ueither the facts here or elsewhere justified, and a position taken in order to produce a panic. Rome had her punic wars, but it was reserved for us to have our panic wars.

Let us examine (continued Mr. H.) briefly the position of the question before us. In 1818, a certain convention was entered into between the respec:ive governments of the United States and Great Britain, relative to the territory upon our northwest coast, known as the Oregon terriwry. That treaty was, by its own limitations, to remain in force but ten years. In 1827 it was renewed by a treaty which was to be terminated whenever either ot the two high contracting parties should give twelve months' notice of their desire for it. And now, forsooth, because we come here in the way marked out by the treaty to exercise the power thus specially provided for in that treaty, we are to be met as the war party! I repel the imputation, and I hurl it back again, (said Mr. H.) It is that very cry in and of itself that tends more to produce a war than any other course which can be taken here. We on this side of the House are the peace-party. Timid counsels tend to war-"fear admitted to our councils betrays like treason." I cannot sympathize, then, with gentlemen who use this argument, although they may use it honestly: nor will I permit it to divert this discussion, so far as 1 am concerned, from its true and legitimate track. We ask nothing on this side of the House but the exercise of our constitutional rights-rights that are pointed out and defined by the very treaty under which we are acting. And is it true that the exercise of these rights, as we propose it, is any cuuse of war? No, Sir. "Old men see visions, and young men dream dreams," the gentleman from Virginia, [Mr. Hunter] tclls us; and my word for it, it was but the dream of the gentleman's waking hours when he made his panic-war speech, on the ground that this notice was a measure designed in any way or calculated to be a war measure. While with gentlemen in all parts of this House, he most cheerfilly concurred that peace was to be desired above everything else,save the preservation of our national domain and our national lionor, he (Mr. H.) did not hold war to be an evil from which they should shrink, when the preservation of our national rights and our national honor demanded it. If we were to be deterred from exercising our constitutional rights by that stale clamor, then how long would it be before we would
be stripped of every right we do possess by inviting other governmenta to aggressions upon us: Analyze the matter carefully and it could not be mistaken. It was such "stuff" in fact as dreams were made of. And it hardly became gentlemen, thus in terror, to sound the note of war now, when we were dealing with a ration worthy to be our foe. For it would rsot be forgotten, when a fear of collision with a neighboring province was anticipated-a province oo miserably weak as to incur the contempt fif a great nation-then there were no dreams to disturb our nerves, but action-imnediate aclion-was the rally ery, come what might. Certainly our course should not now be retarded; for we should then suffer a just repronch. Let us be as firm and consistent in "action" now.

There was another remark to which he wished to ailude. Too often within theae walls, in the discussion of various measures, had he heard taunts and reproaches, either directly or by implication, cast upon various sections of this Union; and when they :-ad been directed to that section where it was his pride and his pleasure to reside, he had felt them thrill along his nerves like an electric shock, and the impulses of his heart had been upon his lips to hur them back again. But time and reflection had chastened these feelings, and he passed them by in sorrow that they should come from the lips of any individual on this floor; and while it wha his glory and his pride to be an inhobitant of inat section whose motives were so often questioned here, he had a single word to say in behalr of that people. He had no objections to interpose here in defence of what may have been the errors or the wickednesses of her politicians, but in behalf of her citizens he had a word to say. He believed them to be as patriotic as any other class of citizens to be found in our Union. They had exhibited their patriotism and their valor on many a wellfought field. Their bones had bleached on many a northern hill, and the barren sands of the South had drunk in their best blood. Sir, (said Mr. H., ) I point with prite to the North, and invite yoll there to wincss a system which has grown up with us, and which is our ornament. I point you to our system of free labor. I point you to our common schools- $t 0$ our chureles, with their spires pointing towards heaven-and I glory in them. They are the monuments that belong to a people who have the true spirit of citizens of a free govermment. 'These things were the glory of the north; and Mr. H. gloriel in them. They were bloodess moral mum. tael to which marked the ad vancing progress of a free $p$ "ple. But I stop not there; I ask you to go with me throughout this whole broad nation; and 1 point you to her-I point you to the whole Union as a monument of political grandeur towering towards the heavens, upon which the friend of freedom, wherever upon our glole he may be, may gaze, around whose highest summit the sunlight of glory forever shines, and at whose base a free people reposes, and, I luust, forever will repose. So much for New England, my home; so much for the Union, my country.

Mr. H. now advanced to a more direct discussion of the question immediately before them; and he first asked the attention of this House to the duty which they, as guardians of the public weal, owed to themselves and to our common country. He called their attention to that duty which, as a coinponent part of this government, they owed to its ct izens wherever they may be found. If there were
a single duty which rises over, above, ard beys, gentle all others, it was that of the American republimitable lo afford protection to the American citizen where he may be found upon the American soil. It t one of the highest duties incident to the charge $c$ mitted to their hands; wherever our national floats upon the breeze, it should be a certain in Mr. H. n of ample protection to the American citizen irestion in his rights of person and of property. Why, is ours; true (avked Mr. H.) that, in the nineteenth ceth he hat ry, under this government, which we believe tad been th the best the world has ever seen-is it true thate in autho cry, "l um an American citizen," shall not be the Ame sure a safeguard, and a pledge of protection, as, into tha cry, "I am a Roman citizen" was in the paed to res days of Rome: It was said by an ancient phile, consider pher that the government which feels most ene position bly, and which redresses most promptly, every England jury visited by a foreign power upon its inte. This humble citizen, best discharged the duties sles establ cumbent upon it. And is it not truly so? What, samine ca greater degree than the strict discharge of its dutial point o its citizens will call forth their affections and their asion with alty, and will draw them forth to protect the insmatend our tions and defend the standard of their common courpose of try in the hour of that country's peril? The cithe cottonwho realizes the full assurance that his rights is broad ns always be defended with a sleepless vigilance, ings, to the in his turll, ever be ready to discharge with pronf the repr ness and fideity all the duties that country macountry. quire of him.
How, then, is olirgoverment to extend that tection, and that aid which are required from : its citizens, to those wanderers to the distant portio its territory westward of the Rocky mountains. those citizens have been wrested from Amer soil to be tried for aileged offences by foreign la They have been dragged from their peaceful horg from their own domestic firesides, and have tried and held amenable to the laws of British p inces; and here, in the 13th century, from this clamor of war ringing in our etrs, are we to and fold our arms about us, and say "We pause a while hefore we give this notice. We rouse the lion in his lair. England with her c of military posts aromed the world may be arou and we do not precisely foresee what will be consequences:" No; the notice should be g now, and protection to American citizens shoul extended wharever they ure found on American and then that dag that had been borne aloft in triu in the batale and in the breeze, upon the ocean npon the lakes, the emblem of protection: each and to every of our citizens, will float ever over the ho:mes of a fee and harpy peo That fag which now

> "So proudly drinks the morning light Ger ocean" whye in orriga clime. A symbol ol our might."

This faithful discharge of yovernmental de will be one of the strongest arguments in fare the advancement of the principles of our own goverument. The feeling of every citizen that: tection in person and property is secured to him the laws and by the flag of his coantry, will s: more surely than aught else to extend and w our broad domais. Let it be done, and our $!$ ernment vill pursuc its onward course by its m power, until it shall extend from the isthmus of rien to the frozen regions of the North-from rough, rock-bound enast of the Allantic, back
he rules es
ial conside aorthern ar afacturing hey are sit ding climat heir citize fiven them ing peopl may grow the West in country, b world. T view this r interests o widely-ext sarily be t let them ht transporta and we of the wor must be th ply not on portions o cies. Bu home equ for the si South wo creased $p$ factured markets West ha It was a North, a. great Union. kets in treaty st our cott empire. Americः oontinen
er, above, ard beys, gentle murmurs of the Pacific. Then, in the American republi, gitable language of our own distinguishod poetican citizen where merican soil. ent to the charge c ver our national tid lee a certain inMr. H. next proceeded to the consideration of this merican citizen itiestion in a commercial point of view. Oregon roperty. Why, ours; it belongs to us; and the question of the nineteenth celp he had no diaposition here to cxamine. It hich we believe tad been thoroughly, ably examined by those who n-is it true thate in authority, and the result has beer presented ren," shall not be the American republic. He had no disposition to of protection, as ; into that examination. He should be well satis" was in the pabd to rest himself on him who at least might $y$ an ancient phileconsidered the Achilles of this question, in nich feels most nee position that our title was better than that promptly, every England. It was more; it was a perfect ower upon its ntle. This being our territory, then, by laws and ged the duties ales established by Great Britain herself, let them truly so? What, xamine carefully into its importance in a commerscharge of its dutial point of view. They were told on another ocfections and their asion within these walls that it was necessary to to protect the insuxtend our public domain in the southwest for the ftheir common courpose of securing to our country a monopoly of 's peril? The cithe cotton-growing interest; and the argument was ee that his rights broad as our Union; it came home to the fielepless vigilance, ings, to the interests, and to the principles of action charge with pronf the representatives from every sectica of our that country macotantry. Let then now weigh by the same rules, he rules established on that occasion, the commersial considerations involved in this question. The porthern and the middle States are essentially manuffacturing States-the northern States particular'y; they are situated in a high latitude, under a forbidding climate, and yet they have the industry of ltbeir citizens, the water-power, and the facilities given them by nature to render them a manufucturing people. The South-the "sunny South": raay grow the staple produce of that country; and the West may be the granary not oniy of our own country, but, give it all outlet, the granary of the world. Then, he said, in a commercial point of view this matter came home to the feelings a:d the interests of every citizen of every section of our widely-extended country. The North must neces. sarily be the manufacturing section of this Uuion: let them have on outlet; let there be an easy mode of transportation and communication to the far West, and we would become the manufacturers almost of the world. The northern aud the midule States must be that partion of our Union, which will supply not only india but China, and all the eastern portions of the world, with their manufactured articies. But he stopped not here. The matter came home equally to the interests of the Sonth, because for the supply of those manufuctured articles the Sotath would be called upon for their staple, for increased production of that staple, which in its manufactured form is thus destinell to fin ts way to the markets of the East. It was it question in which the West had no right to assume a particular interest. It was a question which came home equally to the North, the South, the East, and the Vest. It was a great national question, co-extensive with our Union. Why, we were alrcady opening our markets in the East; we have already established our treaty atipulations with Cliina; we have already sent our cotton and manufactured goods into the eastern empire. Last year more than six millions of American manufactures were se.at to the eastern oontinent, and of that amount more than four mil-
lions of dollars is believed to have been of colton goods. We have opened the Chinese market, and in opening that market, with the advance which commerce will give in that distant portion of the globe to civilization, to refinement, and to Christian:ty, we have opened a market which will call for untold millions of the manufactured s.rticles of the northern und middle States-manufuitured from this staple of the South. Beside, the commerce of the North was deeply interested in her whaling-ships. That ocean is now covered with nearly 700 ships, and half a hunilred smaller vessels, manned by more than 20,000 of our citizens, and sending liome as the fruits of their labor more than three millions of oil annually.

Mr. II. proceeded to enlarge upon the value and extent of the commerce which would grow up between the East Indies and our Pracific country, if we had possession of Orcgon. The trade between the United States and the East Indies was already very important. liat it would be vastly increased when we should find a route for that trade overland to the l'acific und across that ocean to Irdia. Wherever commeree went, there the lights of civilization and Christianity would soon be found. Wherever the people of the East have liecome enlightened hy commercial intercourse with ns, she would consime a vist quintity of our products, while they would supply us liberally with theirs. Who could tell what uncounted millions of manufactured goods from the United States would be marketed in the East Indies? Commerce was theretore deeply interested in preserving the integrity of nur dumain. He would gladly pursue this subject further if time was allowed, and show that this question was one that concerned the commerce of the whole country, and that the whole people of the United States were interested in it. But he wast limited in time, und he could not pursue the subject in all its details.

He was in favor of giving this notice, as he had already declared. He was in favor of giving it now. For this colutse he would give reasons. First, he trusted that by giving the notice, the danger of delay and of obstruction in otr councils would be obviated. The gentleman who had immediately preceded him in the debate, [Mr. Toonns,] preferred the amendment of the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. Incmand,] which left it discretionary with the President to give the notice at such time as he might sec fit. Thit would lead to serious difficulties. He wonld say that this propos.ion came with no good design, so fat: as be coald judge of it, though he had no doubt of the honorable motives of the gentleman who offered it. It would change the issue which ought to be made. Instead of inquiring whether we would act and act now, we would, by this course, give a discretionary power to the Executive to act or not, and either now or at a later period. Some would think that the President had acted ton soon if he acted now. Others would think that he had acted too late if he postpoued it. It would give in opportunty to many to shelter themselves from responsibility, and to reproach the President with having ected out of time. The true question was whether we should give the notice now. Should we angume the responsibility of action, or throw it upon the President? That whs an important question. Why should not we take upon ourseives the responsibility of action in the matter:

Many getslemen wished to shift the responsibility off fromo themseves, and then, if the President
should act promptly, they would say, he was rash, imprudent, hasty; and if he waited tor a while, they would say that he had let alip the golden moment. Why, if the subject had been referred to 1:9, and if the power belonged to ue, should we not exercise the power and give the notice ut onct? If there was any advantage in giving the notice nt nll, it was proper to give it at the earliest moment withcout loss of time. If wa did not give it now, in what positinn should we be left? The whole subjent would be suffered to take its chance, withnut un eifort on our part to maintain our rights. He knew that it had been recommended to us to adopt " $a$ wise and masterly inactivity"-that wus, to do unthing. IIe would rather call it masterly duplicity, or masterly dishonesty, to take measures, in an indirect way, to get possession of the cnnntry, without suffering our olject to be known. How long did centlemen wish to carry on this masterly duplicity? Some of thena had fixed a limit to it of twenty years. Sir, (naid Mr. H.,) I have a single inlea on that point. We had told our people that they might occupy that country. Were they to be thus encouragend to go there and settle, and yet not be entitled to our protection? If you do mot take them under your wing, can you expect to retain their affection? No. They would be faithless to themselves if they gave you any confidence or affection after sueh treatment. As well might a mother expect the love of her children whom she repelled from her bosom, and cast ou' into the world without protection. It would be a most unnatural mother that would cast off her children as we would do were we not to givo this notice. Should we acquire a colony by this courne of masterly dislonesty, it would make ns the reproach of a!l nations. While he reminded the admiress of the British government that it was one of splendid palaces contrasting with squalin poverty, there was one thing in the British government that he admired, much as he despised all the varmeing about her power, and greatness, and glory. He adnired it for one specinl quality-its care of its subjects. It gave protection to its subjects all over the world. Wherever the subject of England might br, he was covered with the proteccion of British laws and British power. This, in his opinion, was an example worthy of imitation.

He would go a step further than the notice, and extend the protection of our laws over ofr citizens in Oregon.' It we did not, we shouid fall shor: of our duty. After doing this, be would go still further, and create those bands of iron which were to bind indissolubly together in one union the people of the Atlantic and the people of the Pacific. He would gro for a raibrond across the Rocky mountains-for annihilating linue ard space between us and the inhmbitants of the Pacife coast. In a military point of view, this railrond would be necessary. We should be obliged, for the protection and defence of the country, to establish this mode of communication. While it would afford nilitary protection for the defence of the country, it would be the means of creating a vast trade between the castern and western portions of the continent. The immediate consequence of such a trade would be to open a traflic in our manufactures with the people of the East Indies; next, we should be able to drive out all competition on the part of the British fabrics in that lucrative and important trade. We would, by meanse of this overland communication, be soon able to create immense com-
mercial depots on the coust of the Pacific. I could make voyagen to the Eant Indies in half time that Great Britain could. Our manufactu: would thus compete in that important and increasi market, with those of Great Britain, and, inde drive out all competition; and thus they would $t$ come eatablished on a firm foundation, without aid of a black tariff to maintain them. He had ways opposed internal improvementa by the gene government; but he would adopt this improveme as a military work-ono necessary for the pub defenee, though it would be used for civil and co mercial purpoaes. In a military point of view, a defence to the country, it would be far more e: cient than battlements along the coast.

Should the United Statee delay to do the duty to their eitizens in Oregon, the Briti government would avail themselvee of the delay take measuren for aecuring the territory to her su jects. Great Britain had already, by force and frau covered the world with more than a hundred col vies. She had done this by blood and carnage, an in violation of the rights of all nations with whic she had been connected as an ally, or opposed to a fue. The history of India would tell the whole st ry. In the year 1600 , during the reign of Que Elizabeth, a charter for commercial purposes wi granted to some private trading adventurers. Thi company have spread death and desolation over th ${ }^{\circ}$. East. Under Warren Hastings every crime, ever: [A memb species of perfidy, and cruelty, and rapine was peiYes, sir petrated for the acquisition of territory and of wealten if she by the company. So fearful and prodigious wained by his rapacity and cruelty, that he became the themeans by w of universal execration by orators and poets. lastination had beell remarked, in one of the invectives against in Eng? him, thint when some wretch, laden with horridet of terri crimes without a name, should atalk through earth. While ge and we want cursea for him-

## "We'd torture thought to curse the wretch; <br> And then, to damn him most supreme, <br> We'd cali him Hastings."

It would be easy to run a parallel between the ves and valuable East India Company and the Hudson Bay Compa-ly an in ny. It would show us the necessity of taking hold of this matter in due time, and of giving this notise now. ow.
Government after government had submitted to il know British power in the east-some being reduced by: delayed fraud and treachery, and others by force, until now jitish pret the population brought under her sway amounted an, the ge to more than a hundred and thirty millinns. The $r$, young
Great Mogul, the former ruler of Hiadostan, was Great Mogul, the former ruler of Hindostan, was d he coul at this day a pensioner on British bounty. And the gen
the British government, through the East India samed in the British goyernment, through the East India aamed in company now, at this time, by the force of her arms, :tion of is preparing to invade and subjugate the last thout the province of that country. Mr. H. said he would prising S
be glad to trace the progress of this government actures, be glad to trace the progress of this government prisures, in the East Indies; but not having time for that, he iters rus would say that from beginning to end it was jusands, stamped with infamy. He called the attention of , ve to th the committee to these facts, in order to show that is and sh unless we gave the notice the Hudson Bay Com- :tures wl pany, which was formed upon principles akin to due tin That in the east, would by gradual encroachments, be- nerica, a come possessed of all the strong positiona in Oregon, It would and be more difficult to dislodge. We might, as tend do he said again, find a parallel in their progress to the to gentl corporation that has so long oppressed and devas- scue, and tated the East. By what waters were the Hudson Bay Company originally bounded? By those waters
ed in the ung ones:re losing ves and ly an in
at empt apany hwea mainte it wha is polic Oregon, done If of our of the No longe iment cl cifie co croachme length nts abov below th mbia rive engthene scue, ant
to obtai 3 positio

Britain, and, inde: thus they would $t$ ndation, without $n$ them. He had nente by the gene pt this improveme d for civil and co point of view, coast.
delay to do the egon, the Britis ves of the deiny
erritory to her su by force and frau in a hundred col? id and carnage, an nations with whic: $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text { y, or opposed to } \\ \text { tell the whole sti }\end{array}\right.$ he reign of Quee cial purposes wa? adventurers. Th desolation over th ${ }^{0}$ every arime, ever: [A member here said, she is nearly there now.] id rapine was pei Yes, sir, (said Mr. H.,) she will soon be there, itory and of wealten if she is not there now. What, then, can be d prodigious wained by delaying the notice, which is the only becanve the thenmans by which we can arrest her progress? Proors and poets. Iastination had been said to be the thief of time; invectives against in English diplomacy, it had proved to be the laden with horriael of territory.
alk through earth, While gentlemen talked of war, which only exed in the viaions of old men, or the dreams of ung ones-while this bugbear was held up, we :re losing the opportunity to secure for ourres and our children this most important d valuable country. What now would arise, was ly an inference on the part of these gentle2. They had not shown how it would arise. ley had not shown us the modus operandi. But we Ill know that the British pretensions would be to engthened by our eternal delay. The longer y: delayed the notice, the more arrogant would the itiah pretensions become. One point more. Our old n, the gentleman from Virginia says, see visions, $r$ young men dream dreams. He was not old, dhe could not see visions; and the d eans he left the gentleman from Virginia. Let those who a samed inagine that a war will arise from our astion of our rights; he did not believe it. But thout the aid of visions he saw a populous and enprising State on the slope of the Pacific, with manactures, and commerce, and navigation. The iters rushing down to the Pacific would turn susands of wheels and spindles. Our people would ,re to that region, and carry with them all their $s$ and skill in all the various branches of manotures which we have established in this region. due time they will supply a large portion of nerica, as well as Asia, with their fabrics.
It would not be long before our settlements would tend down to the Mexican boundary. He appealto gentlemen from the South to come up to the scue, and avail themselves of this fair opportunito obtain Oregon. He asked their attention to z position we occupied before the Americun peo; and the world, in regard to this subject, and as-
emptied into Hudson's bay. But still that pany had, by virtue of a connexion with the hwestern Company, stretched across to the PaIt was the policy of Great Britain to plant maintain colonics, and one of the modes of doit was to operate through chartered companies. policy she was now applying to the territory Oregon, and it would succeed there as well as it d done elsewhere, unless we should interfere in lieIf of our settlers to protect them, and give the noe of the termination of the joint convention.
No longer ago than the year 1730, the Britiah govniment claimed the right to make settlementa on the cific coast north of the Spaniah settlements. llay had taken place on the other side, and the croachments of Great Britain were not observed. length Great Britain had not only made settleents above the oldest Spanish settlements, but also below them, and had now come down to the Co. nbia river. Originally, her territorial pretensions re only to points beyond the old Spanish sctitsnita; but soon she would come down to forty-
e wretch;
me,
allel between ti dson Bay Compa ity of taking hole piving this notice
had submitted peing reduced b forec, until now
sway amounted millinns. The Hindostan, was 1 bounty. And the East Indi prce of her arms, jugate the las I. said he would his government me for that, he to end it was the attention of $r$ to show that son Bay Cominciples akin to roachments, beWions in Oregon, We might, as progress to the ed and devasre the Hudson y those waters
sured them them that for us there was no retreat from the responsilility of this act, without incurring the jus: repronch of the people of the United Statea, and, indeed, of the whole world. The Executive had presented his views to Congress, and had recons mended to us the passage of the measure now be. fore us. He had naked for our early arcion upon it. The stale ery of war ought not to prevent us from discharring this duty; and if we shonld falter in performing it, we should he branded as unfaithful to our trust. The Exccutive had laid before us a etatement of our just claims, showing that they hand a solid and stalile basis. The whole world would be convinced of their truth and justice; and would an American Congress be found slow to defend and nssert them? He (Mr.H.) would appeal ngitin to the South, and to the spirit of theirfathers-of Shumter, Marion, and Pinckneynnil call upon them to come up to this duty of defending our soil. Should fear of consequences prevent us from vindicating our rights from foreign nagression? Should the harrors of war deter lien: from pursuing their line of duty? Wi!l they not come up to the strnggle, ifneed be, and like "reapers descend to the harvest of death?" True, the Sonth 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 norlheast have an extensive commerce. Our ships are found in every sea, and we have cities on tho seaboard exposed to the assaults of an enemy. But, sir, we are willing to hazard everything in the defence of our country, and tolay ull our wealth as an offering on the altar of the public safety. Bat who can believe, sir, that England will go to war, because we do an uct 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 tho subject. He did not preteril to be a wizzaril, nor to furetell fufubure events; but coming events sometimes cast their shadows befure them. Judging of the future by the past, he would say that the moral force of our institutions would apread 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 monarchicial inatitutions do -what would tyrants do-in this age of improve-ment-this age of steam and of lightning? The mariner's compass, the steum engine, the printing press, with the aid of electricity, which has annihilated space, have made the world like the ear of Dionysius. The voice of frcedom in our halls of worship, in our temples, and the knowledge of our schools, may be lieard in distant lands, and will be ecnoed 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 statesnien:
"Anl the gun of our nation"s natal day, At the rixe and ecet

## Shatt boom from the far northeast away

 'i'o the vales of Oregon:And shipe on the sea-rhore luat and taok,
And send the peal of triumph back."


