

thing is fluctuating and on the move—a state from which the Indians are only just retreating, and where few whites ever continue to reside three years in one place—where thousands are going with their negroes to Louisiana, Texas, or Arkansas—where even the County Court Houses and State Capitol are on the move, the Court House of Clarke county, for example, just shifted from Clarkesville to Macon, and the seat of legislature about to be transferred from Tuscaloosa to Montgomery. In the midst of such instability, a feeling of nationality, or state pride, can not easily be fostered. Nevertheless, the resources, both mineral and agricultural, of so vast a territory as Alabama, a fifth larger in area than the whole of England proper, may enable them, with moderate economy, to overcome all their difficulties.

Often was the question put to us, “Are you moving?” But at the small tavern at Claiborne it was supposed that I might be the Methodist minister whom they were expecting to come from the north, to preach a trial sermon. Two Alabamans, who, as I afterward learnt, were under this persuasion, were talking beside me of the chances of a war with England, and praised the British ministers for their offer of mediation. They condemned the folly of the Government at Washington for not accepting it, and agreed that the trade of Mobile would suffer seriously, if they came to blows with the English. “Calhoun,” said one of them, “has pronounced in favor of peace; but they say that the Governor-general of Canada is spending a mint of money on fortifications.” “It is satisfactory,” replied his companion, “to think that we have not yet spent a dollar on preparations; yet I doubt not, if we had to fight, that the English would get the worst of it.” “Yes,” said his friend, “we have whipped them twice, and should whip them a third time.”

I am bound to state, that never once, where I was known to be an Englishman, were any similar speeches, uncourteous in their tone toward my country, uttered in my hearing.

On the table of the inn at Claiborne, I found a book entitled “Walsh’s Appeal from the Judgment of Great Britain,” in which all the provocations given to the Americans by English