

would encourage our enterprising men to engage in this great enterprise—so great, sir, that the minds of our most courageous capitalists were almost appalled at its magnitude; and its importance was still greater than its magnitude. But, I have been over the ground, and as I passed over it, sir, looking out of the car windows and endeavoring to view every acre of the ground we passed, of the most fertile character I have ever seen, I have realized that there was nothing in the East that at all compares with it. Its capabilities exceed the imagination of any man, and we can hardly arrive by our imaginations to the importance of this great and fertile country, when it shall be covered with a dense and enterprising population, and all those fertile acres cultivated, even as the land is now cultivated in the Eastern States, and the whole of its agricultural wealth is to find its outlet through this great city. [Applause.] And that, sir, is only the commencement of it. Its agricultural wealth and productions are nothing compared to the mineral wealth lying hidden now in the mountains of that region. Why, sir, to speak of the political necessity, some men have talked about the disunion of these States. I never was one who believed in that, because I have never seen where the Almighty had erected a barrier sufficient to divide our nation into parts. [Applause.] You may look to the Gulf of Mexico, and to all our extreme southern boundary; you may traverse that line up to Canada, and even there you will find no adequate boundary. [Great applause.] You may go west from the Atlantic Ocean, traversing these vast fertile plains over which we travelled, and you will find no place for an international boundary line. No secessionist nor disunionist can go over the ground and designate the line where disunion could possibly take place. [Applause.] I never believed the thing possible, and with a genial people, homogeneous in all their sentiments, their habits, their education, all, as it were, one family, for any man to suppose that there is anything that can finally rend them asunder, is utterly preposterous. I mean to the crest of the Rocky Mountains, for there, in my judgment, is the only place where