Mr. President and Fellow Citizens: I cheerfully respond to your call this evening. I am ready and willing at all times, on all occasions, and under all circumstances, to give a reason for the hope that is in me. The terrible conflict our government is waging, for its very existence, demands that every patriotic citizen should speak out boldly, unconditionally, for the integrity of the Union. The greatest danger lies not in the armies of rebellion. All around us, in secret conclave, are the midnight plotters of disunion. Already do their works proclaim their purposes. Deep mutterings and fierce threatenings assail up on every side. Bad men, insidiously at work, inflaming the worst passions of the people. Bitter in their denunciation of every thing done calculated to suppress the rebellion. Like the Pharisees of old, who assailed our Savior with the question: Why do ye that which is not lawful to do on the Sabbath day? they are constantly questioning the right of the people to save the country. Stop fighting. Make an armistice — no formal treaty. Withdraw your army from the seceded States. Reduce both armies to a fair and sufficient peace establishment. Declare absolute free trade between the North and the South. Buy and sell. Agree upon a Zollverein. Recall your fleets. Break up your blockades. Reduce your navy. Restore travel. Open up railroads. Re-establish the telegraph. — Re-unite your express companies. No more Monitors and ironclads, but set your friendly steamers and steamships again in motion. Visit the North and West. Visit the South. Exchange newspapers. Migrate. Intermarry. Let slavery alone. Hold elections at the appointed times. Choose a new President in 1864, etc., etc., is the proclamation of one who is high priest in this order of unconditional submissionists. Compromise! Acknowledge the Confederacy! Have peace on any terms! no matter how degrading or disastrous it may be to the government! The rallying cry of this Peace Party is not a never one in the history of our country. But every party that has ever uttered it, at the expense of honor and patriotism, has been branded with an infamy that eternity will not efface. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

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