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PEACE AND WAR.

As the Hague peace congress is drawing to a close, the disappointment at the results, or rather absence of results, is becoming general among the friends of the cause. Secretary Root, in his able address before the American peace congress at Carnegie Hall, New York, last April, warned his hearers not to expect too much from the Hague gathering. He knew something about the almost insurmountable difficulties to be encountered, but even Mr. Root, we fancy, is surprised that so little progress has been made. He thought that the Hague court could be made a permanent institution, and that would have been material advancement, but even that proposition has been turned down. A great deal of talk has been wasted on how to make war more humane, but the real issue, how to make war unnecessary, has been lost sight of.

Still, there is no real cause for disappointment. Progress is always onward, even if at times the advance seems to be very slow. We can confidently look forward to the time when peace, justice and truth shall reign supreme upon the earth, for it will surely come. But as a preliminary the wrongs under which nations and races are suffering as a result of wars and tyranny established by swords and bayonets, must, we believe, be righted in some way, since permanent peace presupposes perfect justice to all. In other words, the cause of war must be removed in the interest of peace. How this is to be done, is the great question. Probably not by diplomatic action. Alliances do not settle the disputes for which wars have been waged. They only postpone the settlement to a future time. Wars, we are afraid, will rage upon this earth, until the masses of the people are so far advanced in civilization that they demand of their governments that whatever wrong the respective nations may be guilty of towards other nations, be righted. When nations, like the Publican in the gospel narrative, are willing to restore fourfold whatever they have taken from others wrongfully, there will be peace. But that means a radical readjustment of the political relations between nations and races.

We must admit that the outlook for the speedy consummation of this is not bright. If we mistake not, the indications of race struggles are multiplying. The question of Asiatic inundation of the American shores is but one feature of the signs of the times. The editor of a Japanese paper published in this country, takes the view that this tide cannot be stemmed. He argues: "The mighty ocean current that washes the shore of Japan, and, therefore, is called the Japan current, also washes the Pacific coast of America," which proves, he says, that "it is 'n keping with the physical geographical arrangement'" for the Japanese to migrate to that coast. This is really defiance. It is virtually saying, nature has given us a right to invade America, with or without American consent, and what are you going to do about it? It is evident that if the Asiatics of Japan, India, and China take that view, there will be trouble. It cannot be avoided.

Then there is an African problem. The outbreak in Morocco is, perhaps, but a prelude to a larger drama about to be enacted on the world's stage. That is the opinion of a writer in the Nineteenth Century (London). He says there is a Mohammedan sect, the Senussia, whose members are determined to rescue Africa from European domination, and he is firmly convinced, he says, that during the next twenty years Europe will be in the throes of a war with the hordes of Africa. This may sound as unreasonable exaggeration, but is it?

The writer in the Nineteenth Century, who is quoted in the Literary Digest, says he has reliable information that members of the Senussia are yearly coming to Europe to be educated along European lines. This is part of a well directed movement for final independence. He continues:

"In Barbary, the Sahara, and in fact all Northern Africa, Senussism penetrates the whole of Islam. It is firmly established in Egypt, the Sudan, Somaliland, Arabia, Abyssinia, Mesopotamia, Asia Minor, Turkey, Uganda, Zanzibar, and the east and west coasts of Africa. The following towns and districts are hotbeds: El Aghowat, Oran, Algiers, Twat, Insala, Timbuctoo, Senegal, Murzuk, Kanem, northwest of Lake Chad, Bornou, Tripoli, Tunis, Jarabub and Benghazi. From all these places emissaries in hundreds sally forth to preach the jehad to the faithful."

But little detailed information on the Senussia sect is available, but it seems to have war for its object. The writer continues:

"I am convinced that when the time does come, every black skin in Africa, with the possible exception of the Christian Abyssinians, will be in arms against the white races. When that day does come, and come it will, certain as fate, the whites in Africa will be at death grips with one of the most formidable movements of all time—a wave of Moslem fanaticism rolling in countless numbers across the African continent. Composed of some of the very finest fighting material—if not the very finest—in the whole world, much of it trained to arms by Europeans, well armed, ably organized and led, gathering momentum at every step, there will spring into being one of the most irresistible forces the world will yet have seen. In a day there will have arisen a situation compared to which the Indian Mutiny and the Sudan campaigns combined would be the smallest of incidents. As I have already said, this will probably be considered an absurdly exaggerated view. Let me once again reiterate my firm conviction that the next twenty years will see Europe struggling in the throes of an African war against forces so great that at the end, it is unlikely to a degree that a single white man remains in Africa. Nor am I alone in this belief. I have already quoted Dr. Carl Peters to this effect, and I could quote in support the opinion of many others—of men who have dedicated their lives to Africa, who have given her of their best, and who form part of the small minority of Europeans who know the native mind. So great is the unrest and discontent among all native races of Africa that it needs but a spark to set the continent ablaze from end to end. To me the Senussia appears to be the source from which that spark will come to fire the powder-mine which is awaiting it."

With trouble brewing in two continents, Europe must necessarily be slow in following the demands for disarmament and arbitration. The European powers have not treated Asiatics and Africans with kindness and consideration to such an extent that they can rely on the brotherly love of those races for their safety.

But a great deal of preliminary work in the interest of the universal brotherhood of man can be done, and must be done, even if the clash of arms is still heard on earth and a great catastrophe is impending. Friends of peace must sow the seed that will grow when the proper time comes. The Son of Man lived and preached and labored before the overturn of the old dispensation. That did not prevent the catastrophe. But when it came, the principles He had enunciated spread throughout the earth, in every direction. Something similar is taking place now. The preliminary work is being done, and when the nations shall have met in their final struggle, the world will be prepared for the advent of the Millennium.

THE FATAL FIGURES.

The Tribune is very sore about the revelations made lately as to the financial status of the City. Its editorial on "petty opposition" is, in fact, what it loves to call "whining." But, no matter! The taxpayers have a right to know how the affairs of the City are being managed.

The Tribune still seems to think that the only complaint is that there is an overdraft against the various funds of the City. But that is not the point. If the deficit could be covered by the taxes collectable this year, there would be no cause for alarm. But the fact is, as we have pointed out, that against the contingent fund alone there is an overdraft of about $23,000 after all the taxes available for that fund have been collected and applied to it. And that, as we have further pointed out, is a flagrant violation of the Constitution of the State, which forbids city governments to create debts beyond the limit of the taxes, except after being duly authoirzed to do so by the vote of the citizens.

According to the figures published, the deficit in the contingent fund alone now amounts to about $210,000. To meet this the City has about $187,000 of the taxes due this year. But there are still three months' expenses to meet. The protest is not against an overdraft for which there are ample funds, but against contracting debts illegally, for which there are absolutely no funds in sight. To do so is, of course, to invite financial ruin.

The excuse that the deficit is due to the improvements made we have shown to be hollow mockery, because not a cent of the deficit in the contingent fund has been paid out for public improvements. The law provides that each fund shall be kept separately. All reference to improvements in this connection is therefore irrelevant. The money has been squandered by reckless management. There is no excuse for the present financial status. Some months ago a Napoleon of finance of the party in power recommended a certain appropriation. His attention was called to the fact that the City had no funds, and he admitted that was true. Asked how he proposed to provide funds for the appropriation, he merely said: "There will always be some way; there always has been." The financial status of the City is due to just such financeering, coupled with a policy that regards public offices in no other light than "spoils."

"CHURCH CANDIDATES."

At last the anti-"Mormon" sheet has undertaken to explain what it means by "Church candidates" for political offices. It is not candidates nominated by the Church, or candidates endorsed by the Church, but candidates nominated by the Democratic, or the Republican parties. The Tribune excels itself, (and that is saying a good deal,) in the following idiotic gibberish:

"As a matter of fact, however, the church does name people to run for civil office, and does it through its political agencies, which sail under the false names of 'Republican' and 'Democratic' in this commonwealth."

According to this flash of intellectuality, when the Democratic party in convention names a candidate for office, it is the Church that does it. In the same way, when the Republican party names a candidate, it is the Church that does it. Dr. Plummer, then, is the Church candidate for Mayor this year; and so is Mr. Morris. When a man becomes a "Church candidate," not by virtue of appointment by the Church, but by virtue of appointment by the political party to which he belongs, there is no telling what we may come to. Will it not be claimed before long that Mayor Bransford, too, is the Church candidate? If not, why not? When insane logic is admitted as valid reasoning, no one can tell what the conclusions may be.

But it is evident that the sheet that charges Church interference in politics and then offers as a proof the statement that any candidates the political parties may nominate are Church candidates, confesses by that statement that it has no proof of its malicious allegation, but that it must rely upon its ingenuity in inventing "proofs" and the gullibility of the public to accept whatever nonsense it may happen to offer it. This is not the first time the Tribune has destroyed its own arguments by its contradictory allegations and absurd conclusions. Like the scorpion, when it is caught it sometimes stings itself fatally.

But that is a fair sample of the reliability of the Tribune when it undertakes to explain anything. "Church interference in politics" is an effective war whoop among people who are easily swayed by prejudices, but when the proof is demanded, it is found to be as harmless as a painted log on the wall of a deserted fort.

One who weighs his words is rarely short.

Money is the greatest linguist in the world. It talks in every language.

Hearst is so independent that he is in league with the Independence league.

The new fall hats for ladies look like an adaptation of Mambrino's helmet.

Uncle Sam ships coal in foreign bottoms so as to save a few bottom dollars.

The presidential hunt, while not a nature fake, doesn't seem to be much of a success.

Anthony Hope's latest book is called "Helen's Path." No relation to "Helen's Babies."

"There are germs in tears," says a scientist. Of at least three kinds: of affection, sorrow and laughter.

Mark Twain is to be a witness in a slander suit. This will be quite a change from his white flannel suit.

President Eliot advises Harvard students to look forward to getting married, but how far forward he doesn't say.

Chairman Knapp remarks that the man who obtains discriminations in his favor from the railroads is worse than a chicken thief. And much harder to catch.

Conreid says that worry over the arrest and fining of Caruso has broken down his health. Let the impresario warn the tenor not to visit monkey houses in future.

The Standard Oil company wants to change its name, not its methods. What's the use? You may break, you may scatter the trust as you will, the scent of gasoline will hang round still.

Rev. R. W. Stevenson, president of Westminster college, expressed amazement and astonishment in the Presbyterian synod at the attendance at the "Mormon" Church schools. The statistics are a marvel to him. And they are splendid reading, too.

One of the most remarkable features of the banquet given Secretary Taft at Shanghai was the fact that Chinese ladies were present and poured tea. It is without precedent and is a very radical departure. It is an unmistakable sign that western ideas are penetrating the Flowery Kingdom. It is much easier to follow social innovations and reforms with political innovations and reforms than vice versa. It is but a few days since the Empress Dowager announced a constitution for the Chinese. Things have begun to move rapidly in China.

IMMIGRATION AND LABOR.

Baltimore News.

For one thing, immigration furnishes a migratory labor supply, coming when it is wanted and going when it is not wanted. This feature of the situation is becoming more and more marked. In times of business retrenchmemnt and slackening of industrial activity there is a great ebb in the tide of immigration. Outgoing vessels carry loads of steerage passengers, who are going back to their own country because employment in this country has ceased to be brisk. This gives the labor market an elasticity which it does not possess in European countries, where dull times throw upon the community a mass of unemployed, whose condition is an acutely distressing social problem. This situation periodically occurs in England, while our country is less exposed to it than any other.

THIEVES IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Boston Herald.

Public libraries which permit public access to the shelves are furnishing statistics interesting not only to professional librarians and directors of libraries, but to teachers of ethics and to all who are concerned with contemporary morals. The number of books stolen and mutilated is so great in many libraries that, to quote a recent librarian's report, "the open shelf is only another word for self-slaughter." Of the intelligence of the purloiners and the vandals there is no dispute that they are products of our schools—public and private and ecclesiastical. But how shall we account for their itching palms and iconoclastic fingers?

COWARDLY WORK IN CUBA.

New York Tribune.

It is a particularly cowardly and contemptible thing for sordid schemers here to speculate on disorder in Cuba and to foment it at long range to suit their gambling enterprises, while they keep their dear selves at home safe from either a Cuban jail or the bullets of the rural guard. It is also cowardly and contemptible for "consuls," field marshals and birds of like feather to fly hither and leave their poor dupes behind to bear the brunt of whatever complications may arise as the results of their plotting. But with such considerations the Cuban government need not concern itself. Its plain duty is to strike, and strike swiftly and surely, at every revolutionary head that shows itself.

JUST FOR FUN.

He Could Not Cry.

When a minor Philadelphia county court was about to open its session recently the discovery was made that the court crier was absent. A substitute was provided and the court had barely taken up a case when a breathless messenger boy dashed in with a telegram signed by the absent crier. The missive was handed to the judge, who read:

"Wife's mother died last night. Will not be able to cry today."—Brooklyn Life.

At the Dentist's.

"Don you give gas here?" asked a wild-looking man who rushed into a dentist's.

"We do," replied the dentist.

"Does it put a fellow to sleep?"

"It does."

"Sound asleep, so you can't wake him up?"

"Yes."

"You could break his jaw or black his eye and he wouldn't feel it?"

"He would know nothing about it."

"How long does he sleep?"

"The physical insensibility produced by inhaling the gas lasts a minute, or probably a little less."

"I expect that's long enough. Got it all ready for a fellow to take?"

"Yes. Take a seat in this chair and show me your teeth."

"Tooth nothing!" said the excited caller, beginning rapidly to remove his coat and vest. "I want you to pull a porous plaster off my back."—Tit-Bits.

The Test.

Jules Dupree, the French artist, who recently found in Miss Constance Leaming of Wolf, Mont., the ideal beauty whom he had set out to search the world for, was talking in New York about America.

"I have been much impressed in America," he said, "with the dashing strength of your baggage handlers, or baggage smashers, as you justly call them.

"In Washington one day I pointed out to a baggage smasher a rather frail gripsack.

"'Is that gripsack strong enough,' I asked, 'to go in the baggage car?'

"'I'll see,' said the man.

"He raised the grip high above his head and threw it on the ground with all his might.

"'That,' he said, 'is what she'll get in Philadelphia.'

"He took it up again and banged it against the side of a car four or five times.

"'That is what she'll get in Chicago,' he went on.

"He tossed it high in the air, and on its descent jumped on it, breaking the lock open this time, so that the contents were scattered over the platford.

"'And that's what she'll get in Sioux City,' he concluded. 'You'd better take her in the Pullman with you, boss, if you're going further than Sioux City.'"—Indianapolis Star.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Movement for Industrial Education is celebrated in the October issue of Charities and The Commons. "No chance to learn a trade today" is a lament you too often hear, and with equal frequency comes the companion cry, "We can't get skilled workers in the trades." The way to answer this supreme need in American life is the theme of the magazine. Henry S. Pritchett describes the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education—to create public opinion and definite reform measures. Susan M. Kingsbury asks, "What is Ahead for the Untrained Child in Industry?" Ralph Albertson writes on "The Decay of Apprenticeship and Corporation Schools." Paul H. Hanus tells the scope of "Industrial Education in Massachusetts." "Industrial Training in the Public Schools" is described by Charles F. Warner. "Private Trade Schools for Boys" are made the subject of an article by Charles R. Richards, and "Private Trade Schools for Girls," by Mary Schenck Woolman. Florence M. Marshall shows "The duty of the Public School Toward the Girl Wage Earner." Robert A. Woods handles "The Economic Aspects of Industrial Education." The industrial symposium is closed by A. G. Bookwaler with an article on "Continuation Work, Education for the Industrial Worker."—105 East Twenty-second St., New York.

The October number of The Travel Magazine will be a Special Mediterranean Number, taking in all the countries one would naturally visit on the Mediterranean trip. "The Calendar of Travel" will give definite comprehensive information and suggestion as to how a winter may be spent to the best advantage in the Mediterranean countries. "Motoring in Italy" will dispel the fears of motorists who have been advised by pessimists that this is not a wise route. "Winter Sunlight on the Nile" weaves a spell under which readers in chill remote countries will live in fancy in the fairy winter land of the lotus. In "Rambles in Rome" by Anne Hallingsworth Wharton, a prominent American writer on Italy gives a familiar account of the life of her own household during a season in the Eternal City. "A Little Journey in Greece" tells us the familiar classic paths about Athens and journeys inland, visiting the Meteora Monasteries in Thessaly. "The Land of the Garden of Allah" by Alice Lounsberry is the account of a trip taken by two women through Northern Africa from Tunis to Algiers. "Constantinople: The Edge of the Orient," bl F. L. Harding, describes a little tour through the fascinating capitol of the Ottoman empire with a launch ride on the Bosphorus. "A Month in Spain" by Frances E. Kraft is a trip from Gibraltar to Madrid through a land as yet unspoiled by tourists.—333 Fourth Avenue, New York.

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