

In other words we stand ready to fight the whole civilized world and perhaps also China and Japan. Well—before we begin hadn't we better spend five hundred millions of dollars on our coast defences, and another five hundred millions in establishing a great army and navy.

*In the meantime hadn't we better spend two or three millions in trying to humanely educate our American people?*

NOT TRUE.

It has been asserted in various newspapers that the American people have long been determined to enforce "*the Monroe Doctrine.*"

We would be willing to wager something that *not one American citizen in fifty* ever had the slightest idea there was any such doctrine, until within the past few months.

ENGLAND WON'T FIGHT.

The Devil never invented a more cunning device to get us into *war* than the above words so frequently reiterated by so many of our politicians and political papers. *England will fight* when the great masses of her people think her cause is a just one, *and the Devil knows it perfectly well.*

THE MONROE DOCTORING.

The *Fargo Forum* says:

"That an up north democrat wrote Senator Roach: All the darned fools around here are talking about the *Monroe doctoring*, and nobody knows what it is, and I don't know myself, *but if the Government is giving it away, send me what you can.*"

LEVITY.

Bro. J. H. Bennett, writing to the *Trestle Board* under the above heading, says:—There are some members of the Masonic Fraternity who try to display in "loud colors" what they think is wit, while it is really a sub-normal condition of the grey substance of the encephalon; while a few, with propriety and wisdom, can indulge or

participate in frivolity, anticipating the results and effect. There are others who think it is necessary for them to "perform an act," regardless of time, place and effect. These should be given a full course of sound lectures on the science of self-government, if it is presumed he is capable of comprehending them; if not, he should be taken without the Temple and executed, as it were. He should never be permitted to occupy the Oriental chair, or join in the march from Babylon to Jerusalem; nor is he fit to become a Pilgrim, or worthy to seek a king's friendship or receive libations. He is not competent to observe an equilateral triangle if enclosed within a pentagon and *should* be disqualified to undertake the journey across the desert. It is lamentable that sometimes such characters are found enjoying membership in the Institution.

What is more in keeping with defiling the sanctuary than for one to enter the preparation-room and exclaim in resonant tones and with levity. "Ha, ha! now is my chance!" &c? Do you think that the mind of the novice is prepared by this to be impregnated with what he is about to receive? Can he do what will be required of him, with due reverence to God and the Order? Can he understand the solemnity of the occasion. Is it laying the foundation to make an honoured and useful member in the Fraternity?

There is a time for laughing and rejoicing, for weeping and wailing, and there is a time for obedience, reverence, and solemnity. The Masonic Fraternity should lay up these last words in their hearts and minds, and bind them for a sign upon their hands, that they may be as frontlets between their eyes. They should teach them to their children, talk about them to one another until they become indelibly impressed upon their minds and souls as if written in bold characters on every wall, door or post.

"The way you train the sprouts, so will the tree grow." The first lesson a child learns at school can never be ef-