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obligations by that enterprising people. It was admitted, however, that the doctrine was not intended to shield the wrong-doer or prevent the assertion of equitable rights between nations. The European claims against Venezuela are to be adjudged and settled by the Hague tribunal, and, if then settled, well; but, if not, then is the mortgage to be foreclosed and occupation or partition follow as the result?

President Roosevelt has more than once given his views on the position. In his first presidential message, he wrote: "Our people intend to abide by the Monroe doctrine and to insist on it as the one sure means of securing the peace of the Western Hemisphere." He also said: "The doctrine will be respected as long as we have a first-class navy—not very much longer." "Our attitude towards all powers must be one of such dignified courtesy and respect, as we intend they shall shew us." "In return, they must be willing to give us the friendly regard we exact from them." The London Times, commenting on the doctrine as so stated, remarked, Aug. 28th, 1902: "As it is defined by President Roosevelt—in strict conformity, indeed with its original conception and objects—it is a policy to which this country has no right to make exception, and which we have no interest in obstructing." Mr. Austen Chamberlain, British Postmaster-General, lately expressed similar approval.

In old slavery days a "Higher law" was invoked. As the Rocky Mountains soared above the Alleghanies, and they above the Blue Mountains, so the higher law, or pet principle of the abolitionists, rose over every human enactment. The Monroe Doctrine is now the favorite with Young America. Captain R. P. Hobson, late of the United States navy, known for his feat in Cuban waters, in a late article in the North American Review, entitled, "America Mistress of the Sea," finds elements of power, numbers and vigor of population, and material resources, without a parallel in history, together with conditions never yet equalled, etc. He urges the increase of the navy, and

says, "We have not receded one step from the Monroe Doctrine of our forefathers, yet South America is as far from us as it is from Europe. When the race for South American markets becomes close, and when the growing European immigration to South America becomes stronger and more controlling, we can maintain the Monroe Doctrine there, and be guaranteed against any assault upon it, only by being able to send to South America as large a fleet as Europe could send." And this brave and loyal tar, who would make a very practical and profitable use of the Doctrine, urges that the practical way to hasten the reign of peace is "to place control in the hands of the nation of peace, the nation of liberty, the nation of beneficent promptings; let them realize that the United States navy, which alone can give control to the nation, is thus the bulwark of human liberty, the agent of peace, the instrument of brotherly love."

Captain Mahan, the U. S. expert naval officer of greater age and experience than Hobson, in the International Review for February, 1903, claims that the Doctrine has the power of development inherent in dogma and varies in its application as the emergency arises; it is a policy, not a law; but it is not a mere idea; it is a will and can be applied, as the national will, when it becomes a power. Power, he says, has two factors, force and position.

In the captain's views, international responsibility is limited to the coercion of Venezuela, and the like American countries, which have incurred indebtedness abroad, to any extent short of conquest and annexation or protectorate. He says, however, "it is evident that for a nation to owe money to a foreign government directly, or by guarantee, is a very different political condition to that of indebtedness contracted in open market for individuals." "It is the part of wisdom, and substantially of justice, to exclude such occasions of offence." This expression has aroused attention in Europe. It has been the custom of promoters of schemes for the improvement of new