

The Christ of the Andes.

(Boston Pilot.)

One of the most striking contributions ever made to The Independent is the article on "The Christ of the Andes," from the pen of Senora Angela de Oliveira Cesar de Costa, who first thought of this commemorating the treaty of everlasting peace between the Argentine Republic and Chile.

"This colossal statue of Christ, lifted nearly three miles above the level of the sea, commemorates the conclusion of the most remarkable treaty of peace and arbitration ever made between two spirited nations, one which is accepted as the example to the world. The statue is cast from bronze of old cannon which the Spaniards left at the time of Argentine independence. The sculptor is a young native of Argentina, Mateo Alonso. On the monument is the inscription: "Sooner shall these mountains crumble into dust than Chileans and Argentines shall break the peace which, at the feet of Christ, the Redeemer, they have sworn to maintain."

The Independent is even ready to receive and forward to Senora de Costa contributions for the subsidiary good works which she mentions in her article.

There is something most happily suggestive in the Independent's action. Once the constituency to which it especially appeals would have doubted the possibility of receiving a valuable lesson from far-off South America; and would have feared superstition, if not flat idolatry, in the statue of the Redeemer. As we come to know strange lands better, national prejudices drop off, and before the revelations of the human nature we have in common, race differences are seen to be

Mere surface shade and shadow, while the sounding unifies all. May not this be a preparation for the religious unity for which so many earnest souls long?

We append Senora de Costa's article: The erection of a monument commemorative of the international peace between Argentines and Chileans was a logical outcome of the events which were being unfolded on one side and the other of the Andes.

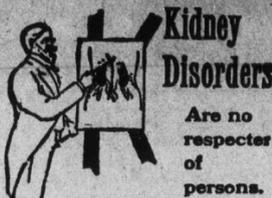
War seemed inevitable; diplomatic methods having proved insufficient, there seemed no other way for the solution of the question of boundaries than that of the ultima ratio of force. In order that the national frontiers should be defined, it was necessary to stain with human blood that strip of disputed territory upon the crest of the Andes. The armies were ready to begin the campaign; the navies equipped to put out to sea.

At the supreme moment of giving the signal to advance, the oppressive sense of the tremendous responsibilities which war imposes obliged the public men of that side and this of the Andes to meditate upon the disastrous consequences of the solution by arms.

The question having been lifted to this plane of calculations and probabilities, reason must needs triumph over the impulses of passion. Chileans and Argentines rising above the vainglory of national self-love, renounced the solution by force, and instead of asking the decision of the dispute from the unconscious and brutal mouths of cannons agreed to receive it from the lips of an international tribunal.

The ultimate end of war—but one which war does not always realize—is the triumph of reason and justice. And here reason and justice triumphed without tears, or blood, or barbarous horrors. What victory more worthy to be immortalized in marble and bronze?

The penetrating idea of the commemorative monument was in the national atmosphere, and I had but to condense it in my spirit to give it tangible form. If the idea is mine, it is in the same way as belongs to the sculptor the statue which he brings forth from the block of marble where it was sleeping invisible; and I even dare to think that the idea had to issue from the brain of a woman, because it is an idea of sentiment, and in all time men have



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reached us for thinking with the heart.

Moreover, everything which tends to perpetuate peace by its prestige and glorification specially interests and affects us women—that is to say, the mothers, wives, daughters, the betrothed of those who must fall sacrificed on the battlefields. War may dazzle men with its lightning flashes of military glory. For us women it represents only tears and pain; that is why the Latin poet called it "accursed by mothers."

The erection of the monument to international peace gave rise to these additional questions: What character shall the monument have? Where shall it be placed? What shall it represent as a symbol?

Thereupon, that it might have its real significance, it must be of official character and raised by the Argentines and Chileans, represented by their respective Governments. And thus being international, where should it be placed if not on the boundary line of the two nations, and on the summit of that mountain range which had seemed destined to serve as a theatre for the exploits of the heroes of war?

The object of the monument is to glorify peace, justice, human brotherhood; and who could better personify those virtues than He who preached them in His life with divine words and sanctified them with His death in the martyrdom of the cross? Who could more rightfully occupy the highest summit on earth than He who for twenty centuries has occupied in the history of humanity that topmost summit which touches the sky and is called "Golgotha"?

In this way and on one deduction to another I succeeded in giving complete form to the idea of the monument to Peace represented in the Cristo Redemptor (Christ the Redeemer), whose splendid statue was lying in this city, having been ordered by the illustrious Bishop of Cuyo, Monsignor Marcolino Benavente, to commemorate the Holy Year (1902), and which, for lack of means, it had not been possible to place on the Inca Bridge. (Bathing place in the mountains.)

But the idea is worth little or nothing unless it is transformed into a real action.

For the rest, it may be said that I had to contend with obstacles which seemed insurmountable for a woman. But I have a moral quality which I may call Saxon; I am persistent and tenacious in all that I believe true, good or just. I have always thought that there is no force more powerful than an energetic will which knows how to desire with faith.

Is it not with that secret that the great Republic of the North has discarded from its political and scientific vocabulary the word "impossible"?

I soon placed the idea under the auspices of the religion represented by the first dignitaries of the Church and of the social beneficence represented in the society of "Christian Mothers." Accompanied with such prestige, we knocked and not in vain at the doors of the Argentine and Chilean authorities; who adopted the idea and took the responsibility of bringing it to fulfillment.

The image of Christ is now standing on the summit of the Andes, as a symbol of brotherhood and peace among men. But that is not enough. Peace is the united expression of a divine religion, of love and charity. Where charity is lacking, the peace cannot be a true one, because it lacks that sentiment of human solidarity which makes us feel the misfortunes of others as our own. There on that very lofty summit numbers of travellers, surprised by the snow storms of the Andes, perish every year during the winter for lack of timely and effectual assistance. "Christ the Re-

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deamer," who immovable from His pedestal of granite contemplates those dramas of despair and death, asks of all mankind the foundation in those solitary deserts of a humanitarian establishment similar to that of the Monks of Saint Bernard in the Alps.

This is the work in which I am now engaged, and which I pray that God will be pleased to grant. I have already the confession made in my name for the accomplishment of that object of the necessary land for the foundation of the Monastery-Refuge. I do not doubt that the Argentine and Chilean Governments will lend their aid for its support and preservation; but I lack the money for the construction of the building, which needs to be of a material adequate to the ends which it is to serve, and to the severities of temperature which it must sustain.

It will be costly, but for the attainment of a work of mercy humanitarian character and so universal, it is requisite and to be hoped for that people of all nations shall contribute generously to its realization. Climatic and meteorological observatories can also be built there, as it is one of the greatest heights reached by the foot of man (10,500 feet above sea level; the monument is at 13,000 feet).

The first power that I meet on my way is the great, opulent and philanthropic Republic of the United States of the North, and with the confidence inspired by its proverbial generosity, I stretch forth my hand soliciting its pecuniary tribute towards the erection of the refuge in the Andes, commemorating the thought of universal peace.

This will be another link in the fraternal chain that shall unite us, and "In union is strength."

You and your friends who are making so beneficent a propaganda on behalf of that religion of love and charity, having found the practical form, will assist me. I do not doubt, in imploring abundant help for the "Christ of the Andes." I dare to hope that even the Government and the people of North America will not be indifferent to such an appeal, for the love of our Lord!

Contemplation raises the mind to its full dignity; it is beyond the mere filling of the soul with facts. The receptive mind is a little world by itself; and the soul needs contemplation to bring out the splendid possibilities with which it is endowed.

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CRUELTY TO THE GUINEA PIG.

"Did you know, papa, that if you hold a guinea-pig by the tail its eyes will drop out?"

His father laughed outright.

"Why, who in wonder told you such stuff, Louis?"

"The boys all say that," answered Louis, sober as a judge, "and it's so—yes, sir."

"Oh, nonsense," said the father, still laughing.

"Well, you go to the cage and hold one up, and you'll see."

Just to humor the boy, the father went out. In a moment he came back looking—well, just like a man that's been badly sold.

"The little rascal got me that time," he said to a friend.

"But I don't see the point," said the friend.

"Don't you?"

"No."

"Well, guinea-pigs have no tails."

HE HAS NO TIME.

Little Mary was discussing the great hereafter with her mamma, when the following ensued:

"Mamma, will you go to heaven when you die?"

"Yes; I hope so, child."

"Well, I hope I'll go too, because you'll be so lonesome."

"Oh, yes; and I hope your papa will go too."

"Oh, no; papa can't go, he can't leave the store."

THE S. CARSLLEY CO. LIMITED THURSDAY, October 19, 1905.

MORE NEWS OF THAT SPECIAL SALE OF LADIES' FALL AND WINTER COSTUMES

To read the prices given below, one would think we were in the month of January instead of October. The bargains in LADIES' COSTUMES are simply phenomenal. The upset conditions of trade, caused by the weather, are responsible for these absolutely unexpected offerings.

Take advantage of the greatest money saving opportunity ever offered to the Ladies' of Montreal.

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This week we place on Sale a line of odd lots and sizes of STYLISH TAILORED SUITS, which we have taken from our regular stocks. Prices have been cut to one-half and one-third to make a rapid clearance. The materials include Cheviot, Venetian Cloth, Mixed Fabrics, etc. Several styles—jaunty coats, bolero effects, hip length jackets, etc. Some are plain tailored, others are trimmed with fancy braids, some with cloth of contrasting color. Skirts in the graceful pleated styles. Ordinarily these Suits would cost you from \$12 to \$15. For this Special Sale we make them \$7.95

A Bargain at \$9.35

TAILORED SUITS of the New Fall Fabrics. There's a wide choice of styles from which to make a selection, all stylish, becoming, dressy, and thoroughly up-to-date. Some are plain tailored, others with straps and combination cloths. The materials include Cheviots, Serges, Vicunas and other wanted fabrics. Hip length and three-quarter coats. Skirts are cut in the latest styles, well-fitting and carefully tailored. Values in this lot range from \$15 to \$18. Special Sale price \$9.95

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New Fancy Dress Mohairs, for Shirt Waist Suits, 44 inches New Fancy Mohair d'Alsace, very wide. Special \$1.05 choice, 44 inches wide. Special 51c New Swiss Lustrine, twined effect, for Street Costumes, 44 inches wide. Special 52c New Welsh Tweeds, for Ladies' Street Costumes, 44 inches wide. Special 59c New All Wool Panama Cloth, double warp, 44 inches wide. Special 64c New All Wool Florida Cloth, rough surface, 46 inches wide. Special 71c New Covert Cloth, Bradford Fabric, 44 inches wide. Special 72c

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Vol. LV., No. 1

IRELAND

A FEW LEAVES

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