

ready with a word of counsel at the right time. The memory of the last years of his life will ever be a lesson to us of patient submission. And when the last change came he was as a sheaf fully ripe and ready for the reaper.

THE BOUNDARY DISPUTE

The unhappy differences which have existed between the United States and Great Britain of late, and which at one time seemed very likely to prove serious, is of too momentous a character to be ignored by us. A war between these two nations would be the greatest detriment to the cause of Christianity, Civilization, and Peace, in comparison with which the misunderstanding between Great Britain and Venezuela is infinitesimal. We are unwavering advocates of the spirit of Peace, and of diplomacy or arbitration in the settlement of all disputes between nations, but to endeavor to enforce arbitration by a war whose awfulness, and far reaching consequences for evil, would exceed that of any other war of the century, is a very different matter—an act which we cannot too strongly condemn. We fully believe the boundary in dispute between British Guiana and Venezuela would have been settled by diplomacy, and without an appeal to arms, without the interference of the United States, and especially of the very questionable action taken by the President and Congress in the matter. We think it would be wrong for England to wage a war with Venezuela over this boundary question, and we think it would be an incomparably greater crime for the United States to wage a war against Great Britain in this matter, *even if she refused altogether to arbitrate the dispute.*

It may be as well, perhaps, to dissect—to analyze somewhat this Munroe Doctrine, which has played such a prominent part in the dispute, and which has seemingly taken such a hold of the, at least, "jingo" element of American people. As Canadians, who

have the earnest desire to live peaceably with the Americans, and with all men, and though British subjects, for which we are truly thankful, we feel that we are a part of this American Continent, and are deeply interested in its progress and development, *along the lines of peace and in the Spirit of Christ.* We feel also that we are more than Canadians—more even than a part of this continent—*we are citizens of the world.* To ignore the great and important truths of the *brotherhood of all mankind.* is coming far short of the teachings of Christ. As a member of a Religious Society which has been pre-eminent in its advocacy of the principles of Peace and Love, we cannot do less than to call all to this high ideal. In the light of this broader view, as well as in the light of peace, we ask you to examine the *principle* of this Munroe Doctrine, as it is being now expounded. This principle was asserted in 1823, when Munroe was President, and states in substance that no European power shall be henceforth permitted by the United States to conquer any fresh portion of America.

In the light of truth and of peace, we take exception to such a doctrine, principally for two reasons. In the first place we believe it may be just as wrong for an American power as for a European power to "conquer any fresh portion of America." Secondly, we believe it wrong to enforce any such doctrine by *war.* If the United States should say to the world, "so far as it lies within our power, short of an appeal to arms, no nation shall be henceforth permitted to conquer any fresh portion of America," and would show her faith in the principle, by handing back to Mexico her Texas, we fully believe every power would then respect her disinterested advocacy of peace and of the principle of arbitration. When the light of Divine Truth and justice shall fill our hearts, then indeed will the Spirit of Peace prevail.

1st mo. 20th.

S. P. Z.