

## PREFATORY NOTE

In an address delivered on the first day of February, 1916, at Des Moines, Iowa, President Wilson said:

You know that there is no international tribunal, my fellow-citizens. I pray God that if this contest have no other result, it will at least have the result of creating an international tribune and producing some sort of joint guarantee of peace on the part of the great nations of the world.

This little volume, published with the permission of the Honorable Robert Lansing, Secretary of State of the United States, because without his permission the official documents which it contains could not properly be made public, is intended to show the progress already made in creating the international tribunal, of which the President of the United States is such an earnest and such a convinced advocate.

In calling attention, as this little volume does, to the coöperation of Germany, France, Great Britain, and the United States in the cause of international justice, the undersigned ventures the hope that these four nations may soon again coöperate as fellow-workers in the cause of international justice, for they must needs coöperate in this cause if justice is one day to regulate the conduct of nations.

JAMES BROWN SCOTT,  
*Director of the Division of  
International Law.*

WASHINGTON, D. C.,  
February 28, 1916.