

throughout the civilized world, and the firm determination expressed to reinstate the reign of the law, encourage us to believe that the principles of International Law will emerge victorious from the struggle, and rest on a firmer footing than ever. Grotius wrote his great work in the welter of the Thirty Years' War, and in the Prolegomena you will remember the oft-quoted passage:—

“I saw prevailing throughout the Christian world a license in making war of which even barbarous nations would have been ashamed; recourse being had to arms for slight reasons or no reason; and when arms were once taken up, all reverence for divine and human law was thrown away, just as if men were thenceforth authorized to commit all crimes without restraint.”

Just as the unspeakable horrors of that conflict prompted the great Dutch jurist to write his immortal treatise, so may the present calamity bring forth new efforts for the uplifting and betterment of mankind.