

A year after the occasion of Lord Russell's address at Saratoga Springs, a wide-reaching treaty of arbitration between the United States and Great Britain was successfully negotiated by Mr. Olney on the one side and Lord Pauncefote on the other. The treaty, though fully accepted by the British government, failed to secure ratification in the United States Senate and so came to nothing. At the same time, its provisions are well worth careful study, representing as they do the extent to which public opinion had been educated in the two countries before The Hague Conference had been thought of. The treaty is remarkable for the fact that it stipulated that every kind of dispute should come before the arbitrators, but its weak point was that in the gravest class of cases the decision was not binding unless the court was practically unanimous. Mr. Cleveland, in his letter transmitting to the Senate the treaty, which he declared to represent the concessions of each party for the sake of agreement to a general scheme, said that, though the result reached might not meet the views of the advocates of immediate, unlimited, and irrevocable arbitration for international controversies, nevertheless he confidently believed that the treaty could not fail to be recognized everywhere as being a long step in the right direction, as embodying a practical working plan by which disputes between the two countries might reach a peaceful adjustment as a matter of course and ordinary routine. Some of its features were admittedly of a tentative character; yet the treaty not only made war between England and the United States a remote possibility, but precluded those fears and rumors of war which are sometimes only less disastrous than the dread reality itself. The President did but echo the opinion of both nations when he went on to declare that it was "eminently fitting" that the first great treaty of arbitration should be signed by "kindred peoples of the same tongue, and peoples joined by the ties of common tradition, institutions, and aspirations."

Finally, the President expressed his belief that the example thus set by the English-speaking peoples would not be lost upon the world, so that the treaty might be the beginning of a better time for the world and mark an epoch in the history of civilization. These were brave words and well meant, but the treaty failed to secure the necessary number of votes in the Senate. Those who were inclined to blame the Senate for