

volunteers can now be found under the American flag on the Great Lakes." I suspect that many of the Summer manoeuvres are organized to enable handsome young Americans to visit the Lake watering places and display their natty uniforms for the benefit of their lady friends. As I have already said, we live in a world of flux and change and if occasion requires it, why should the agreement not be modified to fit the new order of things, with such adaptation to the exigencies of the future as prudence may forecast.

Time and occasion will not permit of any but the briefest discussion of the inadequacy of the agreement to meet the exigencies of the changed conditions of modern days. I suppose the prohibition of construction of vessels of war is the principal source of trouble, due to the very natural desire of the shipbuilding establishments, which have grown up on the Lake shores, to share in the construction of the United States Navy.

Is it possible to satisfy this wish without incurring the same dangers as were foreseen, and intended to be guarded against by the treaty made in 1817? The situation in the two countries is not alike, for, apart from any question of greater facilities for building modern warships which may be possessed by the United States, the Imperial Navy is not constructed on this continent as the U. S. Navy is. The construction of warships without limitation would largely deprive the treaty of any value. It is, however, difficult to imagine any restrictions which will not be open to the same objection on the part of those who may be prevented by them from obtaining a valuable contract. This it must be remembered will apply to ships to be built for foreign governments as well as for the United States.

The difficulties to be met will be great and I cannot attempt to offer any satisfactory solution of them. I gladly, however, welcome the opportunity of suggesting them for the consideration of this assembly of so much of the most eminent legal authority in your country. If my remarks should be the means of turning your attention to the subject and your wisdom devise provision to attain an object of such importance to the welfare of each of our countries I shall feel that I have not idly occupied your time and for myself obtained a great reward.

A. H. SPENCER, Esq.:

The Mayor has asked me, ladies and gentlemen, to express his regrets at being obliged to leave, and to explain to you that the duties of his office, with the speech-making to-day and the St. Patrick's parades, and so forth, have prevented him from remaining as long as he should have liked.