

eil affecting American rights at sea had been withdrawn. But the die was cast. For two years the English-speaking nations fought at the bidding of the war-hawks of the South and diplomacy had no work to do.

When the history of the war of 1812 is written without passion, the war will find few apologists. Goldwin Smith pithily summed up its results: "The schism in the Anglo-Saxon race had been renewed and Canada, instead of being annexed, had been estranged. On the restoration of diplomatic relations in 1819, Sir Charles Bagot was sent to Washington as Minister and warmly received. The enthusiastic greeting given him at a New York banquet when he proposed a toast to the Republic seemed to promise permanent peace. Bagot's charming social qualities fitted the situation. For nearly twenty years Anglo-American relations were on a distinctly better footing. To this period belong the missions of Stratford Canning and Charles Vaughan. The career of Canning is usually associated with his control of Turkish policy. The epitaph, written by Tennyson, upon the statue in Westminster Abbey has caught the eye of many a visitor:

Thou third great Canning, stand  
among our best  
And noblest, now thy long day's  
work has ceased,  
Here silent in our Minster of the West  
Who wert the voice of England in  
the East.

Canning went to Washington in 1820 and spent three years there. He was even more popular than Bagot, his predecessor, had been. In his memoirs are to be found interesting descriptions of the United States a century ago. Monroe was President and John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State. Canning's official relations were with the latter, and it is amusing to compare their estimates of each other in private memoirs which appeared long after. Canning records that "the duty imposed upon me by

the authorities in Downing Street was principally to keep the peace between mother and daughter". To accomplish this task, he had to cultivate patience, and he found Adams a man of "very uneven temper, a disposition at times well-meaning, with a manner somewhat too often domineering."\* Adams describes Canning as "a proud, high-tempered Englishman . . . with a disposition to be overbearing which I have often been compelled to check in its own way. He is, of all the foreign Ministers with whom I have had occasion to treat, the man who has most tried my temper."† Adams admired the British Minister for his sincerity, courtesy, and austere morality. He had a habit of leaving the door between his office and that of his secretaries open, so that when Canning called upon him the staff might enjoy hearing the British lion's tail being twisted. This irritated Canning. Here is a specimen of their conversational sword-play. The topic was the South American republics.

"So, Mr. Adams, you are going to make honest people of them?"

"Yes, Sir, we proposed to your Government to join us some time ago, but they would not, and now we shall see whether you will be content to follow us."

Canning departed in 1823 and his great gifts were applied to England's service in the East. He lived to be ninety-four, enjoying to the end what Shakespeare defines as the best rewards of old age: "honour, love, obedience, troops of friends."

The British mission was often left for a time in the hands of the senior *attaché* and this was the case after 1823, Sir Charles Vaughan not arriving at Washington until 1825. He remained until 1831 and made himself acceptable to the American people. Vaughan was the son of a London physician and was noted as an adventurous traveller. He had journeyed through the United States as early as 1800 and knew the country well. The subjects for negotiation at this time

\* Life of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, K.C. by Stanley Lane-Poole.

† J. Q. Adams's Memoirs.