

self that the war of one hundred years ago did anything to teach the peoples respect for each other or to bring them into harmony. Whatever may have been its effect, if any, in welding the Union together, internationally it was wholly evil, and its evil effects still continue. It was the peace, the ways of peace, which brought us together and made us almost one. What American but finds himself at home in my Canada, what Canadian considers himself a foreigner or an alien in the United States?

What of the future?

I read that Maxim, the great inventor, says that after the present war the United States must fight the victor. I confess scepticism about the United States being forced to go to war with any people. I have heard many times of its being obliged to fight Britain: not many years ago, war with Germany was inevitable (over some nitrates, I think, and later in the interests of Standard Oil): Mexico has been its predestined victim dozens of times; and when no other antagonist is above the horizon, Japan invariably appears.

But Maxim may be right. He is undoubtedly right if that victor, be it which nation it may, hold as a cardinal doctrine of international conduct that war is good in itself, that war is necessary for the highest development of a nation, or the like accursed creed. Any nation which believes—and does not simply say that it believes—that “the living God will see to it that war shall always recur as a terrible medicine for mankind,” will not fail itself to play the physician and administer the prescription if the Almighty seems not sufficiently attentive to His duty.

And if the victor live the doctrine, Might makes Right, the time will surely come when Right will be made by Might; while in the meantime this Republic, to which countless thousands have fled for the chance to breathe without the load of military conscription and tax, must in the meantime be ever prepared, paying for that preparation the inevitable price in money, anxiety and the brain and brawn of her sons—her sons who will thus learn, as no otherwise could they learn, what is