

December 8, 1913,

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of the fact~~s~~ that the civil war, of which he is a survival, had been between English-speaking contestants. In this connection I may interject that I repeated the warning to our American friends to drop that wretched term. I saw A. Maurice Low in Washington, and he, though pessimistic and indeed unfavourable to the project, told me that Bacon had in fact told him, that he had a fairly open mind on the subject. Our American friends saw the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on December 5th; I cannot tell from the press reports how they got on, though I surmise from a statement that they are to make another appearance before that body, that they had not prepared their case as well as could be desired.

I now may sum up my impressions of the Conference under four heads:-

1. The interest and enthusiasm displayed was gratifying and encouraging. The attendance was about one hundred and fifty, and many people were there whom we did not meet at the New York gathering. While there was at least one very silly man there, the general effect was good.

2. The chances for legislative endorsement, as I already have said, seem slightly more encouraging than I had anticipated.

3. While the temper of the Conference was excellent, there was a perceptible weakness in organization, direction and management. John A. Stewart is by no means well and was far from being the man that he was in New York. As I shall explain in a moment, the Conference owed much to Mr. Scammell in the way of direction, and the American Committee is in urgent need of at least one paid Secretary or Organizer of his stamp.

4. There was not quite the same lavish air with regard to money matters. I am unable to put my finger on any one instance, for everything that was necessary was done, and I understand that a contribution of some \$10,000 came in while Stewart was in Washington on the way to Richmond; nevertheless in some vague way the impression persisted.