

strong guards at Peking and strategic positions on the way to the sea, the power of the treacherous and truculent Empress and mandarins must be gone for ever.

The International Peace Congress of Paris, which seems to be a congress of academic doctrinaires, attributes the uprising to aggressions of the missionaries, deprecates their work and would deprive them of protection. It may be true that the assumption of authority as mandarins by Roman Catholic prelates has aroused the jealousy of the Chinese, as did the machinations of the Jesuits long ago, but their civilizing missions, their hospitals, their charities, and the heroic martyrdoms of priests and converts command our admiration. That Protestant missionaries, even weak women and native converts, are as heroic and devoted as any in the world has been abundantly shown during the recent dark days in China. The slaughter of the missionaries two hundred years ago did not extirpate Christianity in China, nor will that of the missionaries of to-day.

The International Congress would not withdraw the protection of the powers from merchants, traders, rumsellers, engineers and exploiters of every possible speculation. But the only men who go to China from unselfish motives, without trade interests, spending their lives and filling foreign graves for the succour of its perishing millions, are the only ones beyond the pale of protection.

There are those who profess that the missionaries should not lean upon the secular arm nor seek its protection, nor even seek safety by flight, but should court martyrdom by remaining at their posts. Not so thought the apostle Paul, who appealed unto Caesar and who claimed the privilege of his Roman citizenship, who invoked the aid of the Roman officer to deliver him from the power of the mob. Though "thrice was he beaten with rods," though stoned and persecuted, though in perils by his own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils among false brethren, and though he finally died the glorious death of a martyr, yet he ceased not to demand the protection of the law whenever it was possible to do so. In sending forth his apostles our Lord bade them, "When they persecute you in this city, flee to the next."

The forces of civilization should be sent to China, not to avenge the wrongs wreaked upon the legations and the missionaries, but as an international police, to inflict punishment only as a deterrent

from crime, to guarantee the rights and protect the lives of the representatives of the foreign governments and the missionaries. In all the ages the person of the ambassadors has been sacred; those who violate that sanctity place themselves outside the pale of civilization, they are amenable, not to reason, but to force.

The exaction of an indemnity of \$200,000,000 may be beyond the impoverished resources of China. It may be possible that large cessions of territory must be made which cannot but hasten the dismemberment of the Empire. Although dissolution may be postponed for the time, yet we think it inconceivable that the arrested development of this colossal incubus can prevent the progress of civilization in the East.

We do not apprehend the danger that some do from a Yellow Peril that, like another invasion of the Huns, shall roll like a tidal wave over Europe. No civilization has ever yet been overthrown by an inferior unless it were honeycombed with vice and corruption. Even the Goths and Vandals possessed the promise and the potency of a nobler civilization than that of the debauched Roman Empire which they conquered. The moral anti-septic of Christianity, though it has to some degree lost its savour, is yet potent enough to prevent the destruction of the Christian nations by the mongrel hordes of the East. The divine leaven of the Gospel has been deposited in China and it shall yet leaven the whole lump.

THE ELECTIONS.

It is a singular coincidence that the general elections in the three largest divisions of the English-speaking race should take place almost at the same time. The vote is the supreme duty of the elector, and, like taking the marriage vow, should be registered "reverently, discreetly, advisedly, and in the fear of God." "The crowning fact, the kingliest act of freedom is the freeman's vote."

Too lightly held has this privilege often been, and too carelessly has this duty often been performed. With a great price have we obtained this freedom.

"Our hearts grow cold,
We lightly hold
A right which brave men died to gain;
The stake, the cord,
The axe, the sword,
Grim nurses at its birth of pain.

"Shame from our hearts,
Unworthy arts,