

The Hague and Basel, embody the hope of the world. They are the centers at which the highest type of human effort will focus itself for the purpose of realizing those ideals of national prosperity, national security and national happiness which in these modern days can have no other foundation than international understanding, international coöperation and international peace. The coming commonwealth of free and independent coöperating nations will be a commonplace a hundred years from now. Men will then look back and wonder at the slowness of its making, at the obstacles that were put in its way, at the arguments that were advanced against it. But they will see Magna Carta striving for hundreds of years effectively to establish its principles. They will see the Bill of Rights meeting with every sort and kind of obstacle before it was universally accepted. They will see the Constitution of the United States opposed and defied by able and resolute men on precisely the grounds that are now so often advanced at Washington for resisting international coöperation and international peace. Rhetorically, all Washington is for international understanding and international peace, but propose any specific act for the fuller accomplishment of those ends and see what reception it meets from those who in rhetoric are most eloquent and most abundant!

How long must the war go on? It will go on until reason overthrows passion, until kindness displaces hate, until generous concern for the welfare of all men drives out narrow selfishness and until eyes now so tightly closed are open to the vision of the new day. Then America will be prosperous again and prosperous, let us hope, forever. Is this impossible? Perhaps, but I think not.

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