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## Centenary Celebration

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11.)

be seen that the happy relations which have existed now for a decade between Great Britain and the United States are contemporaneous with the changed relations between England and France.

The British Treaties with Japan have given stability to international relations on the Pacific, and Britain's example has induced France, Russia and the United States to fall in line. The integrity of China has been guaranteed, the principle of the "open door" established, and there is now a fair prospect of peaceful development in the Pacific Hemisphere; while in Europe the Anglo-French *entente* paved the way for the more recent friendly agreement with Russia, France's ally.

Thus it will be seen that through the influence of Great Britain a League of Peace has been established which encircles the world and holds in check such aggressive ambition as still remains outside; and it must be patent to all observers that the means which has enabled the Mother Country to exert such a powerful influence for peace and international stability has been her preponderance at sea. Not alone the maintenance of the British Empire, but the peace of the world itself cries out for the maintenance of Britain's naval power. But it is also highly important that other peacefully inclined peoples should manifest their adherence to the policy of peace, and to the international *entente* which is the only guaranty of its success.

In the present condition of the world's affairs, if peace is to be maintained, the friendship of Great Britain, France and the United States is of the utmost importance, and anything that will draw these powers closer together will not only be for the benefit of Canada and the British Empire, but for the peace of the world at large, and the advancement of Christian civilisation.

Nothing could do more to promote a continuance of the friendly relations which now exist among these three great powers than that they should join in a great celebration of the peace, which, so far as their own relations are concerned, they have enjoyed for a hundred years, and it would be to the lasting honour of Canada if she should be instrumental in bringing about this celebration. There is no other place so fitting for it as Canada. This is the one country that all these nations have fought for and the celebration of the peace should be held on our frontiers as evidence of final reconciliation and as a final recognition of the permanence of our Imperial relations.

But the propriety of Canada initiating a Centenary Celebration at all rests rather upon the local events of the war of 1812-14 than upon the Century of Peace. The war with Napoleon was, and the peace with both France and the United States, has been as wide as the British Empire; but the war of 1812-14 was mainly an attack upon, and a defence of Canada, and, therefore, local. The celebration of peace, if taken by itself, might as well take place in the West Indies or in the English Channel where it would be more convenient for both Great Britain and France.

On the other hand, it is eminently fitting that Canada should initiate a national and imperial celebration of the successful defence of the British Provinces and of their expansion and consolidation into a great trans-continental Dominion. And as the peace followed the war, so the international celebration of the Century of Peace would naturally

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