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## *INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION VINDICATED.*

Where it is remembered that the ostensible cause of the present dreadful war was the determination of Austria to be both judge and executioner in its own cause, the reply of the present Austrian Emperor to the Pope's proposals for peace reads like a naive, but none the less pregnant, condemnation of the action of his predecessor on the throne.

The murder of the Archduke Ferdinand was no doubt a grievous and inexcusable act, and a cause for which in olden times war by one monarch on another who was believed to have connived at such a deed would be considered justifiable. But in the present stage of the world's civilization the really enlightened nations of the world have arrived at the conclusion that there is a more just and reasonable method of obtaining satisfaction even for such a wrong. France, Italy, England and the United States have for years past favoured the idea that international quarrels should be submitted to arbitration, but the less advanced nations, of which Germany and Austria are conspicuous instances, have favoured the old "might is right" idea, and one of them at all events has demonstrated beyond the possibility of contradiction, that in spite of all its much vaunted Kultur it has only arrived at the position of being a nation of scientific savages.

To such nations the rough and ready methods of a barbarous age naturally approve themselves, and it is by such a people regarded as the right of the stronger nations to regard with contempt the rights of smaller nations. Servia was a little nation and Austria a big one, and to the rulers of both Germany and Austria it seemed the most proper and natural thing for the big nation to inflict such chastisement on the smaller one as it might see fit, and that it was no one else's business; and to interfere in such