

of "The Parliament of Man, the Federation of the World." It was in 1851 that the great Exposition was held under the patronage of Albert the Good, with a view to bringing the nations to a better appreciation of one another. Of late years many organizations and enterprises have consciously or unconsciously embodied the same principle. But few of us realized the meaning of these things. Few of us discerned the Signs of the Times. It was not until the pangs of a war of unprecedented proportions were felt, that the world-consciousness dawned. As men near perishing from cold are wakened by blows from what would be a fatal sleep, or as some sleeping giant of folklore is roused by a sharp wound to defend himself from greater danger, so this bitter war is, to use a poet's phrase, "stabbing broad awake" the spirit of the world, and through its agency the human race is for the first time realizing a still dim but rapidly clearing consciousness that it possesses a unified organic life. Before, it was only a reasonable theory, now it is a fact ascertained by painful experiment and placed beyond dispute, that when a nation suffers, the world suffers. The nations of the world normally bear to each other in this age of universal intercourse, the relation of members of the same living body, and the eye cannot say unto the hand: I have no need of thee. As one organism the world today can have health or sickness. It can have health only if all its parts are functioning in health; and today the world is sick and feverish in every part because certain of the members have transgressed against others and interrupted the normal functions of the parts. It is at last perceived that war anywhere means distress everywhere. In the past victory in war has usually meant some material advantage at least, but it is at last evident that war cannot bring advantage even to the conqueror. By damaging your foe you damage your market, and by reducing his production you reduce your own comfort. By exacting a heavy indemnity you cripple his trade, and so you lose in a large degree the profit of trading with him. In modern war, too, even the *neutrals* lose heavily. Formerly, it was usual for the neutral nations to watch the fray with the gleeful interest of small boys at a dog-fight. Now they feel the distress of the situation. Everywhere there is uncertainty in business, with consequent unemployment and non-production, and in some countries wide-spread actual want.

*Significant Attitude of the United States.*

And it is not only the economic distress of the non-participants that goes to indicate the new world-consciousness of which I speak, but also the profound and unselfish sympathy that has passed like a wave over them all. This is a new thing under the sun; it suggests the beginning of a world unity that is not only external and material, but inward and spiritual. No more notable instance of this change could be cited than that of the United States of America, the most influential