

peace of nations unless speedily settled on well recognized principles in the courts of the contracting governments. It is of the highest importance that our country, one of the great English-speaking peoples, claiming an advanced position among the nations of the earth in the science of enlightened government, in the principles of international law, in education and in Christianity, should be ever scrupulous in keeping its treaty obligations. They are as sacred as the private obligations which arise between man and man, in the manifold duties and relations of life in organized society. They are of higher importance in the development of world civilization because they lie at the very foundation of peace and good order and maintenance of those lasting principles of international law which in the science of modern governments are taking the place of war in the settlement of disputes. We can have little influence in the great movement for world peace if we are neglectful in keeping our own treaty obligations, for the stability of international law and the fulfillment of national obligations is as necessary to the peace of the world as the stability and maintenance of law and order is necessary to the peace and prosperity of society. Law is the embodiment of the highest ideals of civilization. It has governed the relations of men in the most primitive and savage state, and in the modern and highest developed society. Before history recorded and left to succeeding generations the doings of men, law was the governing power and controlling influence of communities and nations. With the growth of government, the uplifting of physical and social conditions, law has been keeping pace with the march of progress. Its invisible forces dominate and control nations, man in all his relations in society, the tremendous transactions of modern economic life, and the minutest details of our social and industrial fabric. It is all-pervading and ever-present. Without it there is no government, no social order, no home. Its administration is the highest and noblest duty of man to his fellows. Its purity and stability are necessary to the peace, happiness and prosperity of peoples. Its corruption is the destruction of the state and of the nation.