

witnessed in the ages of the Wars of the Reformation, of Louis XIV and of Napoleon, proposals for an era of perpetual peace have always been put forward: the projects of Henry IV and Sully, of Saint Pierre, Rousseau, Bentham, and Siéyes bear witness to the ardent desires of statesmen and philanthropists for a speedy realization of the time when the Millennium shall be reached. Unfortunately, they also bear witness to the futility of man's endeavour to hasten the slow grinding of the wheels of God.

We all of us chafe at times at the want of progress which society seems to be making by the ordinary means of development, and long for some stupendous *coup* by which the wrongs of men may be righted and injustice be for ever prevented. The infallible lesson which the history of the past centuries teaches us is the certain though sometimes slow punishment which awaits the persistent wrong-doer, the inevitable retribution which falls upon the breaker of the laws of God and nations. The criminal State is arraigned at the bar of humanity, and history records its sentence.

We do well to cherish high ideals for the future of international relations, but it is necessary that these ideals should be those not of one State only but of all the members of the international society. The Law of Nations can only progress and develop as the ethical standard of each State is steadily elevated. The death-blow must be given everywhere to the anarchical doctrine that might is right, that war is a necessity to political idealism and politics *par excellence*, instead of being the evidence of the failure of diplomacy and the last resort in case of the clash of irreconcilable national ideals. If the present war results in the firmer acceptance of the sanctity of treaties, the complete destruction