

to a just and impartial Arbitration, and thereby get rid of the international dislocation, and legal chaos, which overshadow the political rights and business interests of the inhabitants.

In the Behring Sea case the United States conclusively shewed that "there is an International Law by which every controversy between nations may be adjudged and determined;" that its rules are moral rules, dictated by the general standard of natural justice, upon which all civilized nations are agreed; and that,—though there are differences in the moral instincts, or convictions, of people of different nations, and no enactments in the ordinary sense of the term, for all members of the society of nations, nor indeed regulating the larger part of the affairs of ordinary life,—there are always existing laws by which every controversy, national or individual, may be determined.

The United States have made themselves the champions of, and have declared their national faith in, "the honourable rest and justice found in International Arbitration." Their Congress has invited negotiations from "any government with which the United States has, or may have, diplomatic relations, to the end that any differences, or disputes, arising between their two governments which **cannot** be adjusted by diplomatic agency, may be referred to Arbitration, and be peaceably adjusted by such means." Great Britain has responded that "Her Majesty's Government will lend their ready co-operation to the Government of the United States upon the basis of the foregoing invitation." At the Hague Peace Conference they pledged their nation "to use their best efforts to secure a pacific settlement of International differences;" and joined with Great Britain and other nations in affirming that, "In questions of a legal nature, and especially in the interpretation of International Conventions, Arbitration is recognized by the Signatory Powers as the most effective, and at the same time the most equitable, means of settling disputes which Diplomacy has failed to settle." Diplomacy has failed to settle this boundary controversy, because it proposed what Ex-President Cleveland has denounced in another case as "extensive spoliation."

After urging Great Britain into Arbitration over the Alabama claims, and the Behring Sea fisheries; and especially after driving her into Arbitration over the Venezuelan Boundary Dispute (which in no way affected their territorial or national interests), will the United States now refuse to be faithful to their own precedents, or to give effect to their compact with Great Britain and kindred nations, as expressed in the Hague Peace Convention?