

## International Peace the Culmination of Christian Endeavor.

The advocates of International Peace have before them a problem similar to that which confronted Christ in his mission to establish the reign of peace in the hearts of men. They have Christ's end in view, and can attain it only by following in His foot-steps, by adopting His methods, by appealing to the higher instincts of the people and by educating them in the fundamental principles. Never can they succeed by placing their trust in the potentates of this world ; but they can and will succeed by moulding the hearts and minds of men according to the maxims and precepts of Christ. Right reason thus inculcated into the individual is reflected in the more amicable relation of man with man and nation with nation. We can best realize this when we consider the truly remarkable strides of intellectual and economic progress since the dawn of the Christian era.

Before the time of Christ only a small portion of the world had attained a degree of civilization, a superficial, pagan civilization marked only in rare instances by profound intellectual culture, and aiming everywhere at mere physical perfection for the ends of war and conquest. The major portion of the then known world, was sunk in the depths of barbarism and savagery ; men were strangers, and strangers were enemies. The individual's needs were few, and he united with others of his kind only for protection against those who differed in race or color. The tribal palisades bounded the field of his social and economic intercourse, and all without this pole were enemies to be attacked at the slightest provocation.

But what a change has taken place since the entrance of the King of Peace into the world. The tribal palisades have been gradually extended. The barriers of forest, mountain and sea have been overcome by the march of progress, and through the arteries of commerce flows the stream of humanity. We are no longer strangers ; no longer are we hemmed in by impenetrable



walls of racial and national prejudice : but we have been delivered from the slavery of our fighting passions, by the developement of intelligence and morality. Paganism came to us behind the sword. Christianity came to us behind the cross and lifted the barbarians of the world from the darkness of paganism to the enlightenment of Christian Civilization. Beyond the merely external culture of pagan literature, art and philosophy, it opened up to the human mind the splendid vistas of Christian truth, and revealed to the human spirit the unsurpassing riches of Christian morals.

Christ the Prince of Peace has taught us the divine lesson of the brotherhood of man, and enkindled in our hearts not the all devouring flame of deadly passion and bitter strife, but the all encompassing fire of love.

"A new Commandment I give unto you" He says, "That you love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples if you have love one for another." He commissioned His Apostles to teach all nations and all peoples the lessons of peace ; to teach them that war is of hell, and that peace is of heaven ; and from that moment in which he so blessed the world a blessed change has come over all mankind.

Indeed we are far from the millennium but the fruits of Christ's labor are everywhere to be seen. No longer are the captives of the sword dragged in chains behind the chariot wheels of their conquerors. No longer are a defeated people lashed by the whip of slavery, or crushed by the iron hand of a military despot. War has become less frequent with the increasing age of the Christian era. It is now the exception where once it was the rule; for Christianity has been successful in supressing a great measure of what has been base and mean in man; and in elevating the individual, has elevated the nation, the people, and the race. He uplifted humanity by teaching the individual the lessons of justice and brotherly love.

The time is now propitious for all men to participate in the campaign of spreading the doctrine of universal peace. Increased commerce, rapid intercourse between nations and wider dissemination of political



knowledge, have brought the minds of the people to the point where they can appreciate the efforts of those who preach the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. Show the people that the history of those nations where the popular will is not law, has been a succession of bickerings and conflicts, having for their object, not the good of the people, but the aggrandizement of ruling dynasties. Point out to them that it is cruel to be obliged to pay for the many sentry posts that dot their countries, and to support the ranks of conscript bayonets that glisten conspicuously on their borders. And indeed a cruelty—a cruelty which crushes and grinds the laboring man, and sucks his substance till he is confronted with a real danger of degenerating physically, socially and morally.

Turn the eyes of the people, for comparison, from this sordid spectacle, and let them glance at the boundaries of two great Western Countries—the United States and Canada.

Behold here three thousand miles of boundary, free from the curse of an enemy's rifle. From the shores of the restless Atlantic, through the primeval forest, over the greatest of inland seas, across the rolling prairie, topping the mountain ranges, and descending to the calm Pacific, in an unbroken line, not a single sentry post, not a single file of conscript slaves, not a single hostile ship menaces the peace of either country. Draw the obvious lesson and impress it on the minds of the people, who through the political evolution fostered by christianity have learned to discern and to reason, and who are beginning to recognize the brotherhood of man and the interdependence of nations. Teach them to see beneath the surface of the appeals of political agitators, and to look behind the scenes of the international play on the world's great stage. Tell them that behind every appeal and agitation for war there is an interest that works for gain. Let them trace every such appeal and agitation to its source, and they will soon find the potent factors that feed the flames of war, by raising the cry of national honor, that they may grow fat on the life blood of the nations' young and brave.



Let the people once realize this in its dreadful import to them, and the agencies which make for war will die of inanition. War will cease and peace will be established. Peace the culmination of Christian Endeavor.

J. E. M.

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The drying up of a single tear  
has more  
Of honest fame, than shedding  
seas of gore.

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Tastes change in many respects as we grow older,  
but most of us steadily prefer the unattainable.

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One by one thy griefs shall meet thee,  
Do not fear an armed band,  
One will fade as others greet thee,  
Shadows passing through the land.

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If, as has been said, we really profit by our mistakes, all of us should declare dividends daily.

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The disadvantage of being hard to please lies in the possibility that other people may stop trying.

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The work an unknown good man has done is like a vein of water flowing hidden underground, secretly making the ground green.