

to keep peace of Christian nations, It exhausts the national treasury, cripples the commerce of the world, and makes homes of sorrowing widows and orphans. It grinds the poor, is the fruit of bitter hatred, and leaves in its path a spirit of unsatisfied revenge.

Is it not time for Christian Statesmen to say it is enough?

A pledge of perpetual friendship and good will may end this destructive waste, and national hate, and the horrors of the battle field, made red by the blood of kindred Christian nations.

The people of Europe, who are groaning under the vast military systems which the prevailing faithlessness in the overruling providence of God has imposed upon them, have uttered a cry, and their cry has gone up to the Lord of Sabbath. The limits of endurance of this gigantic evil are being rapidly reached, the Statesmen are alarmed at the outlook of their policy.

Nations, as well as individuals, need to be taught to put their trust in God for preservation. This will begot mutual confidence, coupled with a desire to act justly to one another. The adoption of arbitration for the settlement of disputes will then be readily accepted and meet every emergency, as a substitute for war. It has already found a satisfactory means of settling international disputes, setting aside the religious principles involved in the question, the promotion of arbitration in lieu of war is advocated and increasingly accepted on the grounds of political economy. Near sixty cases of international arbitration have already occurred, nearly all of which are on the records of the present century, in which twenty-two independent nations have been parties. Persia, Turkey, China, and Japan have not been afraid to follow in the lead of the professed Christian nations of Europe, and of North and South America. With this extensive experience of the justice, economy, and mercy of such measures for settling international disputes, can it more fit time than the present be found to look to the perpetual peace of all nations, and to invoke the Divine blessing upon our efforts to reach an end so righteous?

The greatest Generals, Sovereigns, and Statesmen, on both continents have recommended it. Presidents Washington, J. Q. Adams, Grant, Hayes, Garfield, and Arthur

have pressed its claims upon Congress for approval. The Senate and House of Representatives of the United States have, more than once, recommended it. So has the English Parliament, the Congress of Brussels, the French National Assembly and Chamber of Deputies, the Belgian Chamber of Deputies, the Swedish Diet, the States General of Netherlands, and the Canadian Parliament.

It is our prayer that the Lord may so bless you with wisdom that your deliberations and conclusions may open a door of hope to Europe, Asia and Africa, by which they may escape from the crushing burdens of their standing armies, by delegating representatives men to meet in international council, and perfect a peace that shall encircle the earth. The Lord has told us by his Holy Penman, that he has appointed a day when nation shall not hurt nor destroy. For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea: and that Christ's Kingdom, in the latter day, would become so universal that he would judge among the nations, and rebuke many people: and they shall beat the swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks, nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

This glorious day will be ushered in when Christian rulers and Christian Statesmen, and Christian philanthropists shall recognize the universal brotherhood of man and the universal Fatherhood of God.

Signed by direction of Western Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Plainfield, Indiana the 17th of 9th Month 1889

Signed Simon Hadley

Clerk

Signed by direction of Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Richmond, Indiana Ninth Month 30th 1889.

Signed Allen Perrell

Signed Naomi H. Harrison

Clerk

Then adjourned to 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, in separate session.

Third morning 11th Month 12th

The Meeting assembled in Separate Session

Men

34 By Reports from six of the Monthly Meetings, it appears