

The Japanese Red Cross

"JAPAN'S real victory," wrote an American missionary in Tokio to a Japanese newspaper after the treaty of Simonsel had been signed in 1895, "was not over the Chinese, but over herself. She has shown the world that she is no longer to be numbered among the barbarian nations."

He referred generally to the civilized and humane methods by which, on the whole, the war against China was waged, but more particularly to the splendid heroism and devotion of the Japanese Red Cross. Many stories are told in Japan of the brave deeds of doctors and nurses during the campaign of '94-'95 and the advance to the relief of the Legations at Peking.

During the first fight at Haining the Chinese forces suffered severely, and many dead and wounded men were left on the ground after their retreat. The Japanese doctors and nurses worked bravely while the battle was still raging and bullets were sweeping the ground. But their greatest danger was from the wounded men whom they tried to succor.

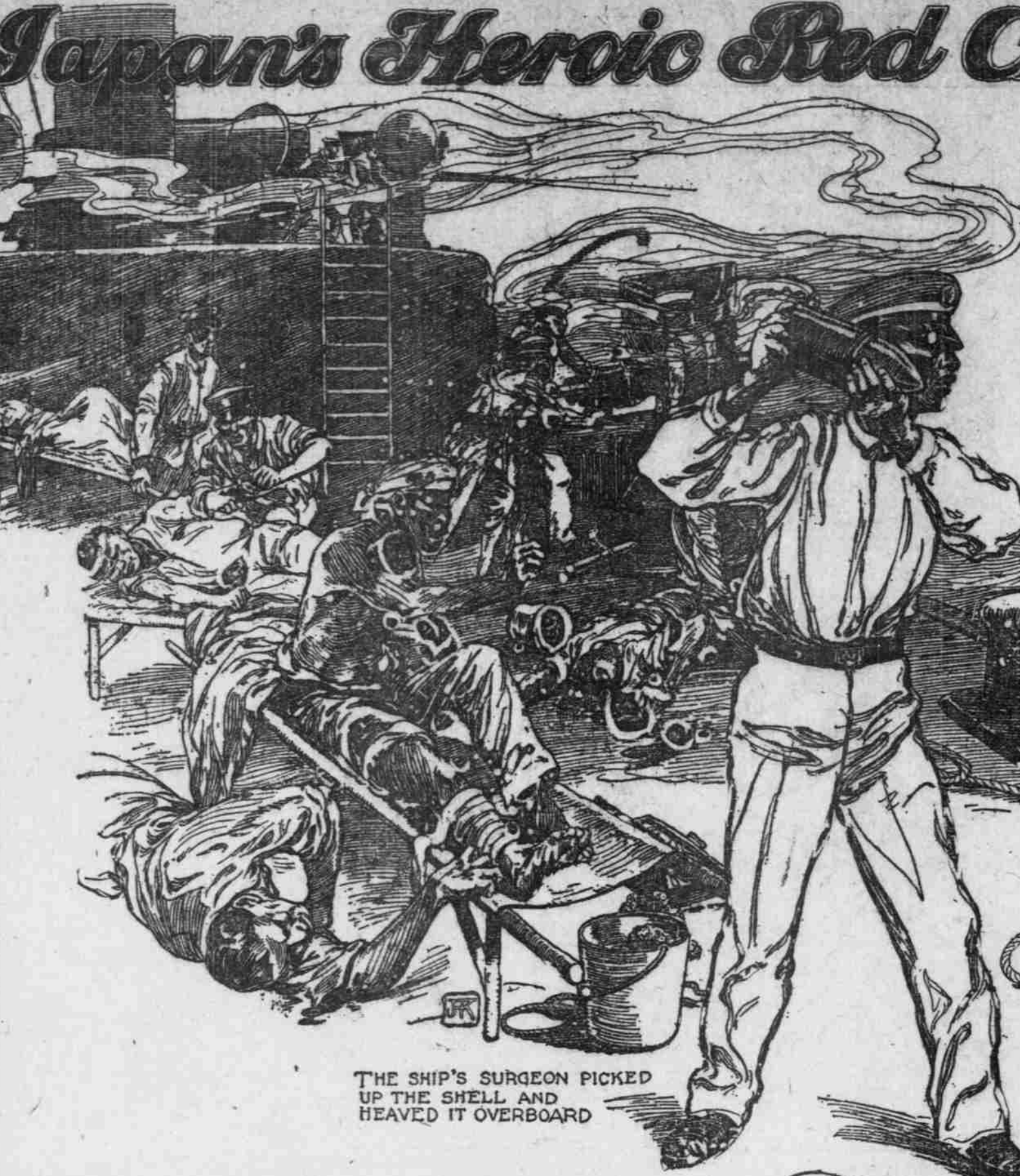
A young girl of 13, the bravest and best of all the nurses, according to the Japanese who tell the story, knelt beside a "banner man," whose right arm had been almost torn away by a shell. His life was ebbing fast, and nothing could be done for him, but his eyes gleamed with hatred when he saw the woman of the enemy. Slowly his uninjured hand stole to his belt and drew a sharp, double-bladed knife. With one quick, spasmodic movement he thrust upward and stabbed the woman to the heart. Hardly had she fallen over on the ground, when a Japanese soldier rushed up and knocked out the Chinaman's brains with the butt-end of his rifle.

Such were the risks to which the nurses were constantly exposed in that campaign. On several occasions wounded Chinamen tried to murder them, but this was the only time their barbarous purpose was achieved. Several doctors and nurses, however, were wounded in battle while attending to the troops under fire.

One Brave Physician.

One of these doctors, named Otori Tamerada, distinguished himself at the land attack on Wei Hai Wei by his dogged refusal to give up his work. At the outset of the battle he was slightly wounded in the face by a spent bullet. He was directing a staff of nurses at the time, and he would hardly stop even to bandage his head. Then he marched up to the rear of the firing line with the ambulances, and was twice wounded in the right arm and the shoulder within a few minutes. Two of the bearers rushed up with a stretcher and wanted to carry him back to the field hospital, but he refused to go.

"I am needed here," he said. "I can't stop my work for trivial wounds like



THE SHIP'S SURGEON PICKED UP THE SHELL AND HEAVED IT OVERBOARD

these, when there are so many men far worse than I who need me."

And he went steadily on, binding up wounds, issuing supplies to the nurses, and generally directing the medical work. His own wounds healed freely, and at last he sank exhausted to the ground. Still he refused to go on the sick list and continued to give instructions and exercise supervision.

One of the nurses called the attention of one of the Japanese Generals to him and that General sharply ordered him to go to the rear and be properly treated. As a matter of military discipline, he had to obey; but he stayed a few minutes to tell another doctor where he would find some necessary medical supplies, and while doing so went off in a dead faint.

The banner of the Yalu was regarded as a heroic deed on the Japanese and Chinese ships alike. Hundreds of men performed

acts which, had they been British sailors, might justly have won for them the Victoria Cross. But none of them was more heroic than a surgeon on the Japanese flagship Matsushima.

That vessel was in the thick of the fighting and had a good many men killed and wounded. Most of them were carried below to the sick bay, but a temporary hospital was also arranged on deck, at which men were treated whose wounds made it undesirable for them to be moved. While the surgeon was attending to some of these men an unexploded shell from one of the older Chinese ships pitched on the deck almost at his feet. It was an old-fashioned fuse shell and the fuse was burning.

Two hospital attendants immediately scampered off to cover, but the doctor, without an instant's delay, picked up the shell, staggered to the side with it and

threw it overboard, where it exploded harmlessly. Then he calmly returned to his work with unshaken nerves, as if he were used to playing ball with bombs every day of his life.

There is an old doctor named Oriuka Matsusasa who has served in all Japan's campaigns since the days of reconstruction, and who now holds an important position in the Red Cross organization. He was with the Mikado's army during the suppression of the Satsuma rebellion, although he was not then a qualified surgeon in the Western sense.

In one of the battles of that campaign he was attacked by two of the Satsuma "samurai" while attending to one of their wounded comrades. They did not understand his business, and imagined that he was about to murder the wounded man. Before he could

explain he was obliged to wound slightly the foremost in the leg with his revolver.

"When they discovered that they had attacked a man who was trying to help their comrades," the old doctor said, in telling the story to an American friend, "they were so humiliated that they declared their honor was hopelessly stained, and they wanted to atone to me by committing 'harikari' on the spot. I had to argue with them for a quarter of an hour before I could persuade them that it was all a mistake and they were really not to blame. Then they helped me to carry their comrade into our lines for better treatment, although by so doing they became our prisoners."

The Japanese Red Cross finds plenty of work to do even when the country is not at war. Japan is afflicted far more than most nations by great cal-



AN INCIDENT IN THE JAPAN-CHINA WAR

amities, such as earthquakes, tidal waves, typhoons and volcanic eruptions. The Red Cross is always prominent on the spot on such occasions, and has invariably done splendid work.

In the terrible eruption of Fuji-yama some years ago, when hundreds of people lost their lives and many others were injured, the doctors and nurses of the Red Cross went boldly into the zone of devastation while the crater was still in full blast, and brought in many sorely burned men and women who must otherwise have perished. Three nurses were severely injured, and a doctor lost his life; but the heroic work went on just the same.

The horrors of the scene were indescribable, and eyewitnesses still shudder when they speak of what they saw of men and women burned and scalded almost out of human likeness, but

still living. Yet not a single doctor or nurse lost nerve, or failed in the calm, steady performance of duty.

The present warm friendship which exists between Turkey and Japan was not created, as most people suppose, by their natural antipathy to Russia, but by the honor given to a number of Turkish sailors by the Japanese Red Cross.

In 1888 the Sultan sent the Turkish warship Ertrougroul to Japan, the captain being charged to deliver a letter of diplomatic mission to the Mikado. Unfortunately the vessel was caught in a typhoon and wrecked on the Japanese coast. The captain and several hundred of the crew perished and the survivors reached land in a pitiable condition, exhausted by their struggle with the furious waves and sorely bruised and battered.

The Red Cross was promptly sent to their aid and a field hospital was established on the coast. Every man recovered, though some of them had to be kept under treatment for weeks. The Mikado sent them back to Constantinople on two of his cruisers, and when the Sultan heard the story he promptly forwarded letters of thanks and Turkish decorations to the Red Cross doctors. That was the beginning of the "approachment" between Turkey and Japan.

According to the latest Japanese newspapers to hand, several women of the noblest families have gone to the front with the troops as Red Cross nurses, as they did during the war with China and the Peking Relief Expedition. There is great enthusiasm over the Red Cross work. Generous gifts of money and supplies are pouring in from all classes of the people, and the offers of voluntary service are far more numerous than can be accepted.

As usual, the Empress of Japan is taking the lead. She is the patron and principal supporter of the Red Cross movement, which owes much of its success to her active help and enthusiasm. She gives money generously, but she insists also on making lint, bandages and other medical comforts for the wounded soldiers with her own hands. The ladies of her court and the women all over Japan are following her example. WILLIAM THORP. (Copyright, 1904.)

Lid Lifted From the New York Tenderloin

Habitues Are Still Scared, However, and Nothing Boils Over.

THE lid of that black social cauldron which swings in West Twenty-ninth street between Broadway and Sixth avenue has been cautiously raised since January 1, but the ghost of reform still haunts those who would fan the fire, and the steam rises faint and thin. Not until May 1 will it be quite clear. Words to that effect has been passed up and down the line.

Yet, even through this faint steam can be seen indistinctly the familiar figures of the "wide open" regime. They fit past like gaunt, hungry, claw-fingered phantoms, reaching out for the prey which, they will soon be able to clutch openly, defiantly and with impunity. And they are worth studying, these ghosts of a power which is coming into its own once more. Some of them are sure enough ghosts, like Tobin's victim of the old Empire furnace-room, who seems to stand at the elbow of each clean-shaven, square-jawed waiter. Some are more material, moral ghosts whose eyes burn like unquenchable fires, and whose lean fingers twitch and reach and reach and are never satisfied. But most of them are the scarlet, scabulous, of womanhood, whose voices issue the cackling laughter that is worked by alternate puppet-strings of gold and wine.

They are at drifting back to the old haunts, the gray-haired cashiers with the seemingly inexhaustible supply of quarters and dimes; the bouncers, with their quick arms and sleazy-like glances; the waiters with their short-change tricks and their nervous, keen eyes; the night-bawks who have found Twenty-ninth street poor picking in the last two years; the amano youth with his wicker tray of red and pink carnations and the women. Women tramping in and out from cafe to cafe, twenty to the man! And why not? A maid in all in the night's work to them. There's nothing to be lost by it. But the men upon whom these resorts are dependent for support are lacking. They are afraid. The ghost of reform holds up a warning finger to them. Tammany is throwing sop to Cerberus Parkhurst. Twenty-ninth street is not yet "safe."

But there is hope, or men would not be opening up the garishly decorated rooms. There may be a raid or two to appease public sentiment, but future profits will pay for taking the chance. So, two weeks ago, Bohemia, under the old management, threw open its doors, and last Monday night the old Boon, rechristened the Tuxedo, was opened by one Fry, alleged to have acquired something of a reputation in the good old days of Tammany at the Sharon, a resort on Third avenue near Fourteenth street.

The Tuxedo is ablaze with red. The panels in the walls are of flaming, red marble paper, the carpet is of red and brown, even the bands in the strip of hemp matting leading down the main aisle on the ground floor are red. The decorations in the ceiling throw down a red reflection. The women who haunt its tables wear

flaming red velvet hats, or red roses tacked jauntily on their curls, and their cheeks are touched to just the right shade of red, but there is a chill in the air, just the same. It will take more than scarlet coloring to make Twenty-ninth street gleam and glow as of old. Perhaps the hoodoo is the fear of reform still in the air, perhaps it is a superstitious memory. A man must need a drink pretty bad to forget Craze, and it is not exactly cheerful to take change from a hand shaped like Tobin's, or to beckon for drink number two to a man whose face bears the headman's stamp.

When the Tuxedo in all its glory of scarlet decorations and stained-glass windows was thrown open there was rejoicing in the Tenderloin. Great times were expected. The move is regarded as a promotion, according to the light of Twenty-ninth street. Not that anyone is ever quite sure who the real proprietor is. Even those in the line are not always positive. The nominal proprietor gets so much license, so much authority in the management that he often is confounded with the real backer. Perhaps the police know, but the police also know when not to talk. And the patrons do not care after the place is found to be "all right." The man who stands first in importance to them is the bouncer.

The bouncer at the new Tuxedo is a cross between Bob Fitzsimmons and the painted figure in clothes the wearing of which is advertised as a good habit. He suggests a keen mentality, not intellectuality, combined with a well-trained physique. He looks as if he preferred good whiskey, but couldn't be downed by it. He knows how to soothe a hysterical woman and save a scene, but a certain twist of his right arm tells another tale. If occasion arose, he could crack the neck of a whisky bottle on the edge of the table, and switch its ragged surface across the face of a belligerent customer, or, lacking the bottle, use a lighted cigar to equally full purpose. The bouncer must be slow to act, but once called upon for decisive move he is no respecter of weapons. The night the Tuxedo was opened, by one Fry, alleged to have acquired something of a reputation in the good old days of Tammany at the Sharon, a resort on Third avenue near Fourteenth street.

But there is no such work for the Tuxedo bouncer these nights. In this Admiration, which is waiting for Tammany's assurance that it is safe, the bouncer has more trouble in keeping the women in line. The rain, the chill winds and the shawl drive them in bedraggled and shivery, and there are few to cheer their

spirits or to pay for their drinks. The other night two girls with an eye on one table where sat a callow youth with a good-sized bottle at his elbow became involved in a dispute. The bouncer was appealed to, and the larger girl of the two received the decision and started to leave the bottle with the youth. The younger girl burst into tears, and despite the bouncer's advice to cheer up and look pretty, she was clearly threatened with hysteria. Her companion turned to her with a bored sigh and remarked:

"Oh, come along then, I'll pay for the drink if you need it that bad."

Yes, these are trying days of waiting for Twenty-ninth street, but there's a streak of light ahead. The men say so and the women say so. Every one in the Tenderloin who has seen Twenty-ninth street in all its "glory" and in all its gloom, says so. "Until these 'good times' come again they'll stay from place to place seeking, searching for the unattainable. There is a restlessness abroad never seen in the old days. Then men and women sat long and drank deep. They laughed, the hollow, meaningless, malicious laughter of the aimless and the degenerate, the homeless and the hopeless, but still they laughed. Now, when a woman laughs, men start and glance nervously toward the door. They are a superstitious lot, the habitues of the Twenty-ninth street cauldron. Stepped as they are in sin, lost to honor and all finer sensibilities, they yet know fear, and most of all the fear of things which are past and gone. The murder of Craze was a mere incident in their lives; it did not horrify, but it will not down; it did not revolt, yet it haunts. There are grins that could easily be twisted into grimaces of horror; laughter that could quickly freeze into gurgles of abject terror. There is something wrong up and down the line. It may be only that the full protection of the mighty Tammany is not yet spread around them, or it may be the thought of Tobin, driving away his wretched existence in Matteawan Asylum, and of the darkened deserted Empire across the way.

The man who is seeking sights, sensations, mirth or hilarity wants to steer clear of Twenty-ninth street these days. It is the dullest, simplest, dreariest, most funeral spot in the city that makes any pretense to gaiety. And of all the dreary spots the Tuxedo, with its blatant redness, is the worst. It was so good on Wednesday night that they served real whisky to the women. Usually ginger ale, colored with caramel, is served to them. They have to be careful about giving whisky to women.

Everything is on a hard, scabrous basis, even the music. For instance: A tall man with a bundle of sheet music went up the stairway leading to the balcony. He was frowning. The colored vocalist was singing a new popular song in monotonous phrases. The tall man threw down his music, opened his overcoat, and commenced to beat time under the negro's very nose. The negro woke up and sang the song

General Arbitration Treaty With Great Britain

Public Feeling in England Regarding the Subject.

Man. James Bryce, M. P., the writer of this article, is the author of "The American Commonwealth," and formerly a member of the British Cabinet.

I AM asked to express an opinion as to the attitude of the public mind in England towards the suggestion of a general arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain. Englishmen of all classes have for the past few months been so much occupied with the question of protection versus free trade that other subjects receive comparatively little attention, and thus it befalls that the raising on the other side of the Atlantic of the question of an arbitration treaty has excited less comment and discussion than would have been given to it had it arisen a year ago. Nevertheless there can be no sort of doubt as to the sentiment which animates the British people on the subject. A few months ago a general arbitration treaty was concluded with France designed to bind the two nations to have recourse to the Hague Court of Arbitration established in 1899. By this treaty, which is to last for five years, the two arbitrating powers agree to refer to the Hague tribunal "all differences which may arise between them of a legal nature, or relating to the interpretation of treaties, which it may not have been possible to settle by diplomacy, provided, nevertheless, that they do not affect the vital interests, the independence or the honor of the two contracting states, and do not concern the interest of third parties." It is further provided that in such case there shall be a special agreement clearly defining the matter in dispute, the scope of the powers of the arbitrators and the periods to be fixed for the formation of the arbitral tribunal and for the several stages of the procedure. General approval has been experienced in England of this treaty and it is believed that a similar treaty is contemplated with at least one other European power.

It need hardly be said that when such is the feeling of satisfaction at our arrangement with France, even more must it be the feeling of our people towards the United States; and that any proposals made there to revive the project of a general scheme of arbitration will be received here with cordial sympathy. There are no doubt reasons in all countries which disapprove general arrangements of this kind. They argue somewhat in this fashion. If there be already good feeling between two nations, arbitration

in any given case or a general provision for arbitration is superfluous, because that good feeling will do all that is needed and will enable an amicable settlement to be reached. If, on the other hand, there should be at the moment when the dispute arises irritation or hostility between the countries, then the provisions will be evaded. The country which thinks it all the stronger or which feels most keenly, will insist on asserting what it calls its rights, even on the plea of "vital interests" or "honor" the engagement to go to arbitration. Now it may be admitted that evasion of this kind is possible. The exception of "honor" made in the treaty just quoted is of very doubtful merit, because questions of honor are often just the questions which most need to be referred to arbitration inasmuch as they are those which a nation finds it hardest to recede from when it has once taken up a position so that the friendly intervention of a third party is especially valuable. If, however, there be a general provision for referring such questions, it becomes a matter of duty and good faith to stand by the treaty and let these questions be referred. If there be no such provision, the referring of them is distasteful, because liable to be construed as indicating a want of spirit. One general ratification treaty at least has already been concluded between two powers, providing for a reference to the Hague tribunal of all disputes whatever which have failed to be settled by ordinary negotiation. And without going so far as to say that there should be no-exceptions cases, certainly the fewer they are the better.

The value of arbitration or of conciliation by a third party lies not merely in its providing a means of determining a difficult issue of law or fact, but in its making it easy for the contending parties to abate their respective pretensions without any loss of dignity. For these reasons it is the view of those who have thought upon the subject that the existence of perfect good feeling between two nations at any given moment constitutes no grounds for omitting to make a general arrangement for the future. However confident we may be that the cordiality which has been steadily growing up between the United States and England is likely to continue, still it is possible that it may have to undergo in the future, and the best way to remove possibilities of danger arising from such strains is to provide now in times of quiet against moments when excitement might render dispute to arbitration unwelcome to one or the other party.

Here in England we regretted the failure of the United States Senate to approve the draft treaty negotiated on our behalf by Sir Julian Pauncefote in 1897, and hoped that a time might arrive when some similar plan might have better fortune. Since then the Hague convention of 1899 has made such plans easier, because it has provided a means of constituting tribunals

which are capable of inspiring full confidence. In some respects the results of that convention have disappointed the friends of peace. It did not avert the South African war of 1899-1901; it did nothing to diminish the risks of a conflict between Russia and Japan. But it has nevertheless rendered the idea more familiar, made the method of applying it more simple, imposed a moral obligation on the signatory powers to endeavor to apply it whenever the occasion offered, and which (as we believe) is also strong in America. These two peoples are especially called upon to be the pioneers of the principle of arbitration. It is the duty of the United States and the United States would have a great value for the world and would be a fitting expression of that warm desire for the maintenance of friendly relations which animates our people, and which (as we believe) is also strong in America. These two peoples are especially called upon to be the pioneers of the principle of arbitration. 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