

Is War Worth the Cost?

Even the Japanese are reported as shocked by the slaughter of their enemies, while mourning the slaughter of their fellows of the armies of the mikado. And if the Japanese are not shocked, the world is shocked, and the question is forcing itself on the public—is the game of war worth the slaughter of scores of thousands of men, even though an open door to trade and commerce is at the other end of the shambles?

The one human life that is lost in the burning tenement or factory is heralded as worth more than the entire cost of the building. It is rightly so heralded and estimated, for man may erect buildings, but he cannot impart life, but takes it, notwithstanding it is a gift from omnipotence.

With a charnel house extended from Port Arthur to Mukden, with tens of thousands of human beings shot to death, blown to atoms, bayoneted, crushed beyond the semblance of humanity, wounded, bleeding, dying, consumed with thirst on the battlefields—is the game of war worth the frightful and shocking cost? As a rule, the world is sympathizing with Japan, looking upon her arm as the arm to stay the march of an unscrupulous, a patient, an insidious and a dangerous foe, which began her march of conquest from the day Peter the Great returned from his European sojourn and ascended the throne to give

new life to Russia. He wakened her to a sense of destiny, the means to be considered and defeats not to be taken as blocking her path to ultimate conquest of Asia and domination of Europe.

If the conclusion of the war would insure a lasting peace, if it would restore to the inhabitants of the desolated countries a return even of their worldly goods and place them in the position in which they were before the first blow was struck, the result might justify the cost, for it would be a staying of the march of a dangerous and a restless nation, unscrupulous as to means and remorseless in method. But will universal peace follow, or will Russia merely await a more favorable opportunity to accomplish her designs?

Her history shows that she has never given up a desired object, and there is nothing in her present attitude to give evidence of an intention to be satisfied with anything but the crushing of Japan and an attainment of uncontrolled influence in China, and, in fact, throughout the entire east. It is for the nations of the world to contemplate the frightful cost of war, as illustrated on Manchurian battlefields, and if any steps can be taken, at least to mitigate the cost, to take them promptly and to enforce promptly.

Mankind has not gone back to the state of the savage, and, surely, there is yet remaining in foreign offices and in cabinets that feeling for humanity

which, sooner or later, will bring about the arbitrament of the judicial tribunal in the settlement of questions rather than the arbitrament of the sword. There are the enormous and almost irreparable losses to trade and to commerce to be considered and the ruined homes. But the slaughter wrought by the armies of Oyama and Kuropatkin, and the horrors attendant on the slaughter, ought to be sufficient to make for peace in every civilized government of the globe.—Cincinnati Tribune.

Eligible to the Presidency

To the Editor of the Sentinel:
Is a man born of American parents while they were visiting a foreign country eligible to the presidency of the United States? SUBSCRIBER.

Milwaukee, Oct. 29.

The constitution of the United States provides that no person except a natural born citizen or a citizen of the United States at the time of its adoption shall be eligible to the office of president, and that no person shall be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years and been fourteen years a resident within the United States. Now, it is evident from the wording of this section that the possibility of the birth of an American citizen while his parents were without the jurisdiction of the United States, or his temporary residence in another country for edu-

cational or other purposes, was thought of, otherwise the stipulation of a fourteen years' residence would hardly have been inserted.

The naturalization act of March 20, 1790, declares that "the children of citizens of the United States that may be born beyond the seas or out of the limits of the United States shall be held as natural born citizens; provided, that the right of citizenship shall not descend to persons whose fathers have never been resident in the United States." This is an authoritative statement of the meaning attached to the words "natural born" by the framers of the constitution. A similar clause appeared in subsequent naturalization acts until that of 1902, in which the modifying word "natural born" is omitted in speaking of citizens born abroad.

Under the law of 1855 it is declared that all persons born outside the limits and jurisdiction of the United States whose fathers are at the time of their birth citizens thereof, are citizens of the United States.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

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