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PEACE

Hushed is the noise of battle, the cannons' roar
is stilled;
Furled is the flag of carnage—the world with
peace is filled.

And over the plain and mountain
Where lieth the sleeping dead,
The Angel of Peace now hovers,
Her snow-white wings outspread.
And forth from the earth there springeth
The blades of the waving grain
To nod to the welcome harvest
O'er graves of the battle slain.

And, joyful, the nations gather, and man on the
harvest looks,
For swords are beaten to plowshares, and spears
into pruning hooks.

Stilled is the tread of armies armed for the
deadly fray,
And birds build nests in the cannons that belched
death yesterday.

For men in the heat of passion
Gave heed to the voice of peace,
And sitting 'neath branch of olive
Have ordered that war shall cease.
The wives and children singing
Now welcome the warriors home,
And laughter and joy are flinging
Their echoes to heaven's dome.

And joy is the lot of nations as each on the grand
scene looks,
For swords are beaten to plowshares, and spears
into pruning hooks.

Gone are the hates of passions, tumult and striving
ceased.
And man made in God's own image from the
blood-lust stands released.

The shock of contending armies
Gives way to the harvest song;
And Right, with a palm branch waving,
Is the victor over Wrong.
The roar and the crash of battles,
The moans of the dying cease;
And over the plain and the mountain
Is the clear sunlight of peace.

The husband returns to the fireside, on the faces
of loved ones looks,
For swords are beaten to plowshares, and
spears into pruning hooks.

WILL M. MAUPIN.



In Which Character Does He Cut the Better Figure?

Peace at Portsmouth

"A peace is of the nature of a conquest; for
then both parties nobly are subdued, and neither
party loser."

The demonstrations in the town of Portsmouth
when it was announced that terms of peace had
been agreed upon, but reflected the sentiments
felt throughout civilization. Men are turning
from the spirit of war. "As on the sea of Gallilee,
the Christ is whispering 'peace'", there is grow-
ing in the hearts of men the conviction that wars
must cease, that arbitration must replace force,
and the wish is entertained—as the hope seems
justified—that the time is soon coming when "the
bugles will sound the truce of God to the whole
world forever."

The results of the Portsmouth conference are
creditable to all participants. Witte, one of Rus-
sia's strongest men bore a large responsibility
and he bore it well. It was his duty to secure
for his country, the best possible terms and he
secured terms such as few men believed could
be obtained. Japan showed great magnanimity
in yielding the hotly contested point of indem-
nity, but Japan will profit by her generosity; in-
deed she is already receiving some of her reward
in the compliments bestowed upon her by men of
all nations and in the prestige she has won by
showing herself foremost in peace as she proved
herself powerful in war. And last, but by no

means least, Theodore Roosevelt, president of the
United States is entitled to the grateful thanks
of the American people for the conspicuous part
he played in bringing order out of chaos. He is
entitled not only to the thanks of the American
people upon whose nation his successful efforts
to secure peace between Russia and Japan have
reflected credit, but there are due him the thanks
of the men of all nations, who have learned that
peace, rather than war, concord, rather than tur-
moil, justice, rather than force, provide the sub-
stantial foundation for civilization and make for
the real progress and greatness of governments.

We need not expect that the nations will dis-
band their armies at once; we need not expect
that all questions will be taken before the court
of arbitration, but we have reason to believe that
the light of a better day is dawning, and that we
are about to enter upon an era in which conces-
sion will assert its supremacy over brute force,
and the crown of victory be awarded, not to the
nation that has the largest army or the strongest
navy, but to the nation that sets the best example
and contributes the most to the welfare of the
world.

When Elijah was fleeing from the wrath of
wicked Jezebel and believed all the prophets to
have been slain, the Lord commanded him to
stand upon the mountain, and as he stood there,
a mighty wind swept by him and rent the rocks
asunder, but God was not in the wind; and after
the wind came an earthquake, but God was not in
the earthquake, and after the earthquake, a fire,