

The Commoner.

WILLIAM J. BRYAN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

Vol. 5. No. 34

Lincoln, Nebraska, September 8, 1905

Whole Number 242

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PEACE

Hushed is the noise of battle, the cannons' roar
 is stilled;
 Furl'd 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
 the 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,