

joined with Congressman Burton in opposing, not immense naval appropriations, but two additional battleships; while but one voice, my own, was raised against the appropriation of \$75,000,000 for a big army. You see it wouldn't do for us to show the "white feather." The European members of the I. P. U. for A. might even think we were serious in joining that body whose ostensible, but apparently only transcendental object is to do away with war. Besides, how are we to live up to our new dignity of a "world power" if we don't compete with European nations in the size of our army and navy? Duty and destiny lead us on.

It was not inappropriately a woman, Mrs. Edwin D. Mead, of Boston, who pointed out that the cost of one battleship such as the Iowa exceeds the total outlay, from its foundation to the present time, for Harvard college, and yet that naval officials admit that the life of one of these modern wholesale destroyers is but 13 years.

The conference was regaled with much laudation of the so-called great "civilized" powers, Great Britain, France, Russia, Germany, Italy and Austro-Hungary. But there was no word of commendation for Chili and Argentina for their actually doing something to minimize the possibility of war by disposing of recently constructed warships and agreeing to submit all their disputes to arbitration. As one of the smallest countries, Switzerland, is the leader among the nations of the earth in achieving the democratic ideal of self-government and has made the greatest advances in the science of government, so two of the smaller, Chili and Argentina, have taken the greatest step towards the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

It was pleasing to note that there were a few at the national conference who would not "bow the knee to Baal." One of these was Rabbi Charles Fleischer, of Boston. He insisted that the usual conception of patriotism was simply an enlarged egoism, an enlargement of individual pride. To such their country was merely "a big I." Real patriotism, he contended, is the applauding of one's own country when it stands for high ideals, but equally to applaud any other country when it stands for justice and right.

Another speech along the same lines was that of the Rev. Lyman Abbott, who pointed out that the war feeling was largely an individual matter: that so long as it was encouraged in the home, in the school, in the factory, so long would it express itself in the action of the nation; that to eliminate the possibility of war it is necessary to teach the idea of mutual respect among the individuals who compose the nation. One of the officers of the organization sub-

sequently expressed this opinion privately: "We have heard the real Lyman Abbott to-night."

The speech, however, which it is to be hoped will make the most lasting impression was that of Baron Kontari, a former member of the Japanese government, now visiting America. It must have been somewhat mortifying to those ardent patriots who imagine that America leads the world in all things, many of whom are equally ardent admirers of kings and emperors, to learn that as long ago as 1875, when Japan was making its debut among the nations of the world, upon a Chilean vessel's bringing, 500 Chinese slaves to Japan they were immediately freed, despite the protest of Chili. It should have been even less flattering to their vanity and reverence for the doings of monarchs to be told that not one European nation approved of Japan's action, but that on the matter being referred to the czar as arbitrator he declared in Japan's favor. There was a well merited rebuke in Kontari's remark that whereas he had been told that the God of the United States and of Europe had said: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth," he was obliged to infer that they had misunderstood the Saviour, for they seemed to assume he meant: "Blessed are the strong, for they shall take all they can get."

If so much stress had not been laid upon the fact at the opening of the conference that a large proportion of those present were clergymen and educators, it would have been difficult to believe that any such were present. For the little that was said against war was not against its immoralities, its tragedies, its engendering of hatred and malice, its destruction of human life, its robbery of the poor to pay for its glory and tinsel, or even of its infraction of the moral law. Such opposition as was made to war was based upon its injurious interference with trade, especially with our trade with the far East, whose possibilities were pictured in alluring colors. Perhaps nothing more could have been expected if the gathering had been made up exclusively of devotees of cent per cent.; but surely something more could be looked for in a gathering of "leaders" in the cause of peace.

Not a word of sympathy for those who had lost father, son or brother; not a word of regret for the 600 or 700 lives lost in the destruction of the Petro-pavlovsk. But much laudation of heroism. Yet heroism unaccompanied with the beating of drums, the call of bugles, the tinsel and display of armies was not applauded. The truly heroic act of the D. L. & W. engineer who a week ago backed his engine through a roaring fire on one of the company's piers, and, hitching to a car at the end of the pier which contained dynamite, hauled it through flames that he well knew might

at any moment ignite the car and cause an explosion, was not even referred to. So far as I have observed this act of genuine heroism has not been recognized by the company even to the extent of a \$50 bill, although if that engineer had refused to endanger his life in going through the flames with his engine to haul that car out it must soon have exploded and would probably have wrought wholesale destruction of life and property.

So fearful were the members of the conference of taking "advanced" ground, so determined to be conservative in their handling of the subject, that I was impelled to ask them whether they really were for peace or not, insisting that it was useless to expect that the American people could come to take any earnest interest in international peace until domestic peace was had, and that this could not be so long as children were taught to worship and prepare for war in school and the States were appropriating immense sums to build armories in our cities. If they really desired international peace it seemed to me that they must set their faces against all warlike measures, domestic as well as foreign, and that we, owing to our unique unassailable geographical position, could take a position on the subject in advance of any other nation. As was to have been expected, this view was dubbed crazy "sentimentalism." The warriors present immediately jumped into the arena and insisted that so long as other nations were increasing their warlike preparations we must do the same. Thereupon this gathering of "peace" advocates applauded. When the platform was presented it was seen to contain not one word in favor of disarmament, present or prospective. I therefore urged the incorporation therein of a declaration in favor of partial disarmament as a practical step towards ultimate peace. The proposal received about as much consideration as a plea for vegetarianism would get in a den of lions.

ROBERT BAKER.

BOSTON.

Boston, Mass., 6 Beacon street, room 621, June 13.—While the recent Centenary of Richard Cobden's birth was widely celebrated in England, it elicited slight recognition in this tariff-ridden country. It was, however, observed in Boston by the American Free Trade League, in the form of a dinner at the Hotel Verdome, on the evening of June 3rd.

Charles Francis Adams, Edward Atkinson and Louis R. Ehrlich of New York, paid worthy tributes to the great leader of the Anti-Corn law agitation, vindicating the principles for which he stood. It was an earnest and uplifting occasion, the heartiest response greeting the most radical utterances.

The commemoration was exceptional inasmuch as no compromising note or disclaimer against immediate reform found expression. Mr. Adams declared himself an unreserved free trader to the extent of abolishing custom houses. Mr. Atkinson, who was not in his usual bodily vigor, yet spoke with unusual force and feeling, riddled the claim of Chamberlain that the United States owe their prosperity to the protective tariff, incidentally calling attention to the land question in Great Britain and Cobden's denunciation of the landlords. Mr. Ehrich's address was an eloquent and ethical treatment of the philosophy of the free trade movement.

Taken as a whole, the gathering was most encouraging, indicating the advance made in the twenty years since the organization of the "Tariff Reform League." At that time, when Charles Francis Adams, its first president, declared himself a free trader, the announcement was met with humorous toleration, such as would have greeted an expressed belief in the near approach of the millennium.

It was refreshing to see the cordial reception accorded John DeWitt Warner's pregnant words: "Free trade is an inalienable right—for trespass upon it, revenue is as little justification as 'protection';" a significant sentiment, as the constitution of the League which has just put him at its head draws the line at tariff taxes "except those imposed for revenue only." It is evident that the limit must be removed if the League is to do effective work on the lines of principle. While that restrictive clause is retained an excuse will always be afforded the timid and half-hearted to hold back and discourage an aggressive propaganda. It is trusted that the change will be accelerated by the accession of new members who are concerned more for fundamental principles than for present expediency or political advantage.

It is now time for the League to broaden its efforts into national and international scope. Beginning as a State, developing into a New England organization, it finally assumed the national name. It has a few Canadian and English members and will welcome more, free trade knowing no geographical divisions.

The present management, unexpectedly called to the position, have taken up the work in the faith that fresh recruits and added enthusiasm will accrue to the association. The rules of membership make no distinction of sex; women are cordially invited to participate on equal terms. The growth of the woman's movement could hardly be better served than by such economic education as is to be had in this and the inseparable and wider movement which is aimed at land monopoly.

The annual fee of one dollar entitles a member to all documents published by

the League and to any of the past publications on hand. Those at a distance could do valuable work by the circulation of free trade literature, to be obtained on application at headquarters. Besides the material aid upon which all organizations must depend, there is also urgent need for earnestness and zeal to make head against the tide of materialism now threatening the foundations of democracy and civilization. In the moral uplift and association that come from unselfish assistance in a noble cause there is exceeding great reward.

WM. LLOYD GARRISON.

NEWS

Week ending Thursday, June 16.

The amazing lawlessness in Colorado (p. 153) continues with few signs of abatement. After the censorship on the 7th of the organ of the Western Federation of Miners, the Victor Record (p. 156), the employees of that paper were driven away under threats of death by a mob acting under the protection of the militia, and under the same protection the plant of the paper was wrecked. After the attack by troops upon a labor camp at Dunnville on the 8th (p. 157), in Fremont county, a county adjoining Teller and not under martial law, an attack was made by troops upon labor union men at a place called Big Bull Hill. In these attacks the militia suffered no injury, but some of the persons attacked were wounded, one was killed, and the rest were taken prisoners. The military began deporting union miners on the 9th, and on the 10th about 75 Teller county miners, charged with no offense known to the law, were violently escorted by a detachment of Colorado militia to the Kansas line. They were there ordered out of the railroad train, which returned, and were warned to leave the State of Colorado. The militia left them on the open prairie without food or shelter, and they were met by a Kansas sheriff who ordered them back. They were finally cared for by the Salvation Army at Holly, Colo., near the Colorado-Kansas line. Further deportations were made on the 14th and there have been a large number of military arrests. Most of the persons arrested are confined by the military at the mine owners' headquarters, but

some have been taken to the county jail charged with murder in connection with the Independence explosion. Among the military prisoners against whom no charge is made is Frank J. Hanks, a lawyer and the leading attorney at Cripple Creek for the Western Federation of Miners. The regularly elected judge for the judicial district and the Teller county judge refuse to hold court in Teller county while this reign of military lawlessness continues. They explain that if they were to appear within the sphere of the military operations they would incur the danger of being forced by the Mine Owners' association to resign under threats of death, as so many other civil officials have been already forced to do.

The military on the 9th ordered the Portland Gold Mining Company (which has refused to join the Mine Owners' association), to close down its mine. This mine has not been involved in the strike and was being lawfully and peaceably operated. According to the Cripple Creek news dispatch published in the Chicago Record-Herald of the 10th—

The Portland mine does not belong to the Mine Owners' association. Last August it conceded the demands of the union and since has given employment to about 500 unionists. The mine will be allowed to reopen only with men holding cards issued by the Mine Owners' association.

Gen. Bell's explanation of this act, as given in his closing order, is as follows:

Whereas, The Portland mine, situated in said county, is, and for a long time has been engaged in employing and harboring large numbers of dangerous, lawless men who have aided, encouraged and given comfort and assistance to those who have been so guilty of said crimes and outrages, so that said mine has become, and now is, a menace to the welfare and safety of the good people of said county, and a hindrance to the restoration of peace and good order. Now, therefore, by virtue of the power conferred upon me as commander of the military forces, it is ordered that said mine be at once closed, and all persons found therein or thereabouts, who are dangerous to the community be arrested and held until further orders.

The "comfort and assistance," etc., mentioned in the foregoing recital, consisted in contributing