FEAST OF THE CHAMBER.

Continued from first page.

to the toast allotted to me on a subject that is close to the heart of every man here to-night. I wish to say one word about the statesman and the good citizen who has passed away—Vice-President Hobart. Of Mr. Hobart it should be said what ought to be the highest ambition of every decent man to have said of him—that he single mindedly and disinterestedly did his duty to the whole country, wholely without regard to any credit or glory accruing to himself. Mr. Hobart occupied the very trying position of one with great titular rank who nevertheless was not supposed to have any active share in formulating the policy of the Government and helping to carry it through. What he did was done not by force of position, but by force of character; his rare tact, his extraordinary common sense and the impression of sincerity he created upon every man with whom he was brought in contact. In short, he had the quality of disinterestedness, the quality which more than any other is needed in a man who has to do work of genuine worth for the Nation.

I am sure that the appreciation in which Mr. Hobart was held was in direct proportion to the knowledge that men had of him and of what he did. It is nothing that we can say, nothing that we can do that will affect him, and it will be of very small moment to those nearest to him in whom the grief at his loss must overcome any sense of the recognition of that loss outside, but we do owe it to ourselves to understand what he was and what he did; to understand that the kind of work he did is the kind of work that must be done if this Nation is to take and keep the place it should keep among the nations of the earth—the work that combined common sense and a sincere patriotic devotion to the interests of the Nation as a whole.

NOT A SELF-SEEKER.

I am sure that all of those—and there are many here to-night—who have been brought in contact with him, will realize how invariably eager he was when the chance occurred to do anything to help along, and, mind you, almost invariably to help it along, without any thought of its being possible that his name should appear in connection with helping it along. His name did not appear. The names of others did, but not his, and his influence is great because of that very fact; because men knew that he was not a self-seeker; that he was not seeking his own renown, his own fame; that what he was trying to do was that the Government of the United States should do as it ought to do, as it was required to do, and, Mr. President, I am sure there was not a man here who did not feel glad that the first toast drunk to-night should be the toast drunk in silence to the memory of the statesman and good citizen who died the Vice-President, and as Americans we have cause to be proud that we could put in that office an American of that type as a representative of the United States.

Gentlemen, I am asked to speak to the toast of "The State." Now, the State is nearly the aggregate of the people in the State, and the State of New-York is what we are proud to think it, because we have in it a good many citizens of the type that I meet here to-night. And as I have the defect of truth telling I should not say that if I did not believe it. I have got a certain ancestral right to come before you. Your president was just mentioning to me how he joined the Chamber of Commerce at about the time my father did, and Mr. William E. Dodge, and one or two others, who were connected with them at that time, and I think one of your first presidents, one of your first predecessors, Mr. Jesup, was Mrs. Roosevelt's grandfather, old Isaac Carow, and I think you will find his picture somewhere among your archives.

PRIVATE CITIZENS' HELP NEEDED.

There is nothing which impressed me more in dealing with the government of the State during the last year than two things. In the first place, the need of disinterested services of men who are not in political life; and, in the next place, the readiness with which that disinterested service is rendered. It is impossible that the public men, that your Legislators, or your executives, can by themselves unaided render you all the service that you have a right to expect. We must rely not merely upon keeping in touch with you, but upon the active assistance of those among you who have become acquainted with the different problems to be solved.

To-night I see before me more than one man who with absolutely no thought of pecuniary reward, and without any expectation, or with probably a small realization of the chance of the reward that he should have in the appreciation of his fellow citizens, has done work of the utmost value for the State. Take the question with which you are, of course, pecuniarily concerned, the question of the State's commercial interests as affected both by the commercial facilities here in what is not only the great port of the State, but the great port of the Nation, as affected by the State's waterways. When I came to deal with that I found that I could not get what I wanted from any public official, because, I regret to say, it is not the policy of our Commonwealth to provide remuneration in our greatest offices sufficient to attract the highest type of business talent. Some time or other the State is going to realize that you always find difficulty in getting a $50,000 man to fill a $5,000 job.

CANAL COMMISSION'S SERVICE.

I mean for what is paid as a $5,000 job, and especially if the job itself is a $100,000 job, as regards the quantity and quality of the skill demanded by it, and I found that I had to make a perfectly frank appeal to the simple sense of civic duty to very busy, very able men, to make good the defects of our State Constitution, using the word "Constitution" in a very broad sense. And one of the first things that I had to do was to ask a committee of citizens to turn in and help me in looking up the whole question of the future canal policy of the State to find out whether or not it was worth while to keep the canals, whether, if it was worth while, in what form we should keep them, and I want to take this chance, speaking to a representative gathering of the commercial interests of New-York City, therefore of New-York State and the Nation, of acknowledging your profound indebtedness to the five men—General Frank Greene, Mr. Witherbee, George Green, Major Symons and Mr. Scatcherd, of Buffalo—who, at great pecuniary loss, at the cost of great personal inconvenience, gave up a large part of their summer to going into the question with the certainty that whatever conclusion they reached would be violently disputed by a part of their fellow citizens, and that they would be fortunate if they escaped without their motives being maligned.

They faced all that, and they put me under the obligation which I am wholly unable to repay save in the rather empty way of acknowledging it as sincerely and freely as I do to-night.

And it is not only that, but when I came to deal with the school system of the State, there again I had to ask five men—men of affairs, men who were already busy doing their own work—to undertake a disagreeable task, the doing of which if undertaken at all would redound in no personal advantage to the men who undertook it, and to them I would like to express my sincerest acknowledgment.

So it has been all through. The State cannot go on, we cannot do our work save by the assistance of such men as these, and particularly of such organized bodies as that which I am addressing. In a great popular government like ours the weight of the individual by himself is comparatively small. It can be made effective only by his combination with others. The best man here to-night cannot begin to speak with the authority with which the Chamber of Commerce speaks in its corporate capacity.

LOOK TO THE CHAMBER FOR AID.

And to those of us who have the honor to be for the time being your representatives in public life, and who are sincerely anxious to try to find out what is best to do to forward the material and the moral wellbeing of the State, to those who feel that way, there is more than you can imagine offhand in the feeling that we have the right to turn to a body like this for thought and well considered action on any problem that comes up affecting the well being of the State.

Now, I ask you to pay attention to what I said there—affecting the wellbeing of the city. I do not say merely the material wellbeing. The reason that it is a peculiar pleasure to address you is because in speaking to you to-night—you, the men who are peculiarly connected with the great material interests of this city—I also speak to so many men who are foremost in furthering the moral welfare of the city. I think one often becomes indignant at certain stock accusations brought against men of means, men of large wealth, as being neglectful of their duties to the public. You all know that one of the favorite accusations brought against not only men of means, but legislators is of unduly favoring corporate wealth. Now, after considerable experience up there in Albany, first of all for three years in the Legislature and now as Governor, I wish to say that I have had to work quite as hard against seeing corporate wealth blackmailed as I have against seeing anything improper done for it.

And now let me add another thing, another experience of mine—that the man who was loudest in indiscriminate denunciation of all corporations and of all forms of wealth on the stump before election is very often the exact man who after election can be found doing what he should not do for the identical corporations that he had denounced.

NO CLASS ANTAGONISM.

Now, understand me; do not think that I for one moment say that wrongs have not been committed by corporations. They have been, and where they have been committed I will stand just as far to the front as I can in seeing them remedied. Those of you who have followed, with whatever feelings, my course in reference to the Franchise Tax bill will probably believe that I am telling you what the facts are. What I mean is this, and what impresses me more and more the more I have to deal with public questions is, that if you are going to have sound political development, if you are going to have a healthy political life, you cannot afford to take a stand which shall divide men according to their wealth or lack of wealth, according to their being in one business or one occupation and another; that you have got to have implanted in you that spirit of fellow feeling, of sympathy in its largest sense, which will make you judge each man on his worth as a man, and the actions of each man according to those actions. You cannot expect—I will put it stronger than that: the minute you get any man who goes into public life against a certain class, when that is his stock in trade, you have got a man who is not merely dangerous to that class, but dangerous to the community as a whole.

It is healthy to have political lines vertical, so that banker is against banker, bricklayer against bricklayer, and so on, according to their conceptions of the needs of the country. It is absolutely unhealthy when you have the line horizontal, so that the bricklayer is against the banker; so that one class is against another.

And I will tell you why it is unhealthy. The experience of the past has been, from the days of the Greek republics of antiquity, through the days of the Mediæval Italian republics, down to our own time, that the minute you get men who divide on the lines of class, of caste, each man substitutes loyalty to the class as the type of virtue, in place of loyalty to the ideal of those virtues which go to make up the State as a whole. And that has got two effects. In the first place it makes him just so far as he is loyal to the class disloyal to the rest of the community; and in the next place it implants in him that moral twist which is absolutely sure to make him not merely disloyal to the community as a whole, but disloyal to the very class itself when the occasion arises.

AN ILLUSTRATION FROM THE RANCH.

Let me tell you a very homely personal anecdote. Some time ago I followed the business of a ranchman out in the West—out in a part of the country where there were no fences and the cowboys and the branding iron took their place. There the breeding herds are kept up by branding each calf with the brand of the cow that it followed, and if the roundup passes by a calf—next year what they call a maverick—it is unbranded, and mavericks have produced not merely race, but county wars in different sections of the country in our more youthful, buoyant days; and in my time the range law was that the maverick should be branded with the brand of the ranch or range on which it was found. One summer out there I had hired a new cowpuncher, and he and I were riding in across the range, and we struck a maverick, and he got out his rope and threw it, and we started to brand it. I said to him, not knowing the range we were on, "It is a thistle brand." He said, "All right, boss; I know my business," and in a minute or two I said, "Wait a moment; you are putting on my brand." He said, "Oh, yes, I always put on the boss's brand." I said: "Oh, all right. Now you go back to the ranch and get your time." He said: "What is that for? I was putting on your brand." I said, "Yes, my friend, but if you steal for me you will steal from me."

Now, there is a profound philosophic truth in that, and it applies to a good deal more than the cow business. When you get the public man who will do what he ought not to do for you he will do it against you as soon as it suits his self-interest to do it.

AFRAID OF "SMARTNESS."

If there is one quality of which more than another I feel that we in America should beware, it is that quality which is sometimes euphemistically known as "smartness," by which we are all too apt to mean ability wholly disconnected with conscience. We all of us know instances of the man who succeeded in business or the man who succeeded in politics, of whom one says when you object to him that he is a rather shady character: "Oh, yes. But I tell you he is smart." Now, don't think that I am apologizing for the fool. I don't. I don't care for the fool. I don't even care for the good fool. I have had too much difficulty with him at times. Now, gentlemen, the unfortunate consequence of that remark will be that to-morrow I shal receive indignant letters from certain friends asking why I have attacked them. We don't want the fool. We cannot afford to have him. But just as little, even less, can we afford to tolerate the able knave. You have got to have ability, but you have got to have honesty with it, or the ability is simply a curse to the community. And the sooner that we make it felt by the crushing weight of public opinion that we give no quarter to the knave, and least of all to the knave that succeeds—the sooner we make that felt the sooner we will put this country up to the standard of statesmanship where we have a right to expect that the country shall be put.

And it makes but little difference whether he frankly plays his own game, or even in more dangerous guise appears as for his own purposes, playing the game of a certain class and lowering them to advance himself, because they think it will be for their interests and against the interests of another class.

I feel as though my toast, in a measure, overlapped the toast to which my friend ex-Speaker Reed has to respond; because his toast is the "Gold Standard." In other words, honest money; in other words, one phase of honesty, and fundamentally, all the phases are the same; and if there is in one thing for which the State of New-York must stand and does stand, it is honesty—honesty in finance, honesty in business, and just as soon as you can make our people wake up and realize what their duty is and where their real interest is—honesty in every form of political life just as well.

THE EX-SPEAKER'S ADDRESS.

Ex-Speaker Reed in rising to respond to the introduction of the chairman was received with loud cheering. The theme which he took for his address was "The Gold Standard," in regard to which he said:

I appreciate very highly the invitation to address this assembly, for I know its respectability, its high standing and its long continuance, ante-dating, as it does, our country itself. While the Chamber of Commerce is only a voluntary body it has, nevertheless, so conducted itself that its members comprise most of the able and influential men of New-York, and New-York is the acknowledged financial centre of the great republic.

While this high position is not without its jealousies and envies, yet it is the great power for good which ought to be exerted for the benefit of the whole country. When, however, you go beyond your immediate sphere in this great city, you labor under a disadvantage, as it has always seemed to me, a disadvantage which, however, can be made less by knowing it. That disadvantage arises from the fact that you do not realize the tremendous divergence of opinion there is in this country. Of course, this is not a reproach, for if the ablest men in New-York, whose very business brings them in contact with vast enterprises which know no boundaries except Canada, the Gulf and the two oceans, do not appreciate this diversity of opinion it must be because it is in the power of a few men to understand it. It is a fact that you do not know it and do not appreciate it.

A STRUGGLE FOR THE STATESMAN.

This country is so large that it is only in the central place, where the representatives from everywhere meet, that men can get a real idea of the various hopes and fears of the Nation. The greatest struggle which any statesman has to-day in any matter affecting the whole Union is to reconcile a difference of opinions, which are honestly entertained by men who are pursuing liberty and happiness in States which are thousands of miles apart. A law can be easily made which will fit New-York State, but will not suit either Texas or Oregon. A law can be easily made under which in Massachusetts there will be peace, and in California a social overturn. When you undertake to adjust your laws to the whole forty-five States, and do it by the processes of party government, you ought to be very much astonished if the law you can actually put on the statute books comes anywhere within the sight of the law you dreamed of when you started.

We have made many orations and delivered many speeches on the union of States, and they have been well made, but it will be useful for you, as practical men, to bear in mind always that in a country four thousand miles long and three thousand miles wide, with only twenty-one in each square mile, even the telegraph and the railroad cannot mix them up as they can be where two hundred miles by two hundred and fifty miles sums up the distance, and there are five hundred people on every square mile instead of twenty-one; when you add that in the small countries most of the people were born into their places and most of the others have found theirs, and in three-quarters of the big country each man has yet to find where he belongs, what his size is, and until he finds out both thinks he belongs on top, and covers at least an acre.

SETTLED BY DISCUSSION.

All things, however, are finally settled by discussion, and it takes a great deal of time to settle anything among a people so widely scattered. But discussion in time does settle great questions, and when they are settled they should be nailed down.

It is no wonder that the currency question has taken so long a time to settle itself. Even as to the fundamental basis, we have approached it from different points of view. Men in newly settled parts of the country have been in a very different position from ours. We have been through all the experiences of a false currency and have established ourselves at last upon the basis taught by that suffering which renders experience the best master. We have our records and do not wish to have history repeat itself. The men in the new country are facing what our ancestors faced—an undeveloped country, the riches of which they long to possess. They made the same mistake our ancestors made, that money was what they wanted and not capital; money which could be got for nothing, instead of capital, which costs years and trust and faith.

By the full discussion the leaven has gone far, and Iowa, which I can remember as the home of the howling dervishes of rag money, and the States of the Middle West will be as eager as the Atlantic seaboard to proclaim the gold standard, not in doubtful terms, but in words which no one but the Nation can ever efface.

CAN NOW BE DISPOSED OF.

This is a question which can now be disposed of, and against this disposal no reproach of locality can be raised. If it be said that there is no security that Congress may not repeal, to that I answer: I should hope not among a people still free. Are we never to settle anything because that settlement can be upset? (Applause.) Those who have seen how long laws linger which have been outgrown need not fear that a law once passed can be too easily repealed. If the people wish to repeal it it is their right, but it should never be left in the hands of any Administration to so administer the law we have that its amply and fully declared intent should be frittered away. Let us make sure of our standard. Whether anything else should be our own I am not here now to discuss, but what we know we agree on let us have.

Do not forget that in a great and widespread Nation such as we have there are other questions besides money to be discussed and settled. If the standard question drags too long on the roadway some impatient horse hoof may strike it into the mud. There are other questions. How soon they will come on for settlement nobody knows. That they are in the air is quite evident.

I am not obtruding politics upon this assembly. That would be out of place. Without any reference to its political significance, take the vote of Ohio. Two years ago, when we were in earnest and the question of the monetary standard was fully before the people, the candidate who represented the gold standard received 526,000 votes and all his opponents received 486,000. That was 40,000 majority. This year the Republican candidate had but 49,000 plurality, while a third candidate had 106,000 votes. In the old days, when a majority over all was required, there would have been no election. I do not enter into the question of whether such an opposition can be united; I think it could not; nevertheless, that is a chance which better not be taken. But it is not the figures themselves that are of much account. It is what they indicate. If there is a settled National feeling men vote for men and things, but when the public mind is unsettled they vote against men and things. Both Ohio and Kentucky are examples of this.

RESPONSIBILITY OF CONGRESS.

This country, and indeed all the world, is prosperous, but in our rush for gain we must not forget the foundation of our prosperity, which is a consciousness that the machine with which we do business is sure and steadfast. One party now has possession of both houses and is responsible to the country. For long years we have had no responsibility; the Senate was one way, the House another, and nobody knew whom to blame. Now we know where to put the blame. If the wishes of our people are not carried out the responsibility is clear.

One responsibility will be on you, but if you do your duty—push this matter and meet your part of the emergency—you and all the Nation can see that the remedy, if you are again put off, lies in the hands of the people. But some one may say: "You were once in position to help settle this." I am ready to answer all judicious questions, especially when I put them myself. I never was so placed. In my time the Senate was given over to badness. Besides, I am not urging you to push people into positions they do not understand. We have discussed many currency questions and do not agree, but there is one thing on which we all agree, and that is the basis of all currency, the standard on which we are willing to trust our prosperity.

PRESIDENT OF YALE SPEAKS.

President Hadley of Yale University, in the course of an address upon "Education for Modern Business Responsibilities," which was followed with the closest interest by his hearers, said:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the New-York Chamber of Commerce: The two previous speakers have told you better than I can do your greatness and the greatness of your responsibilities. It is for me to suggest how in the future men may be tried who shall fill worthily the places that you now occupy. It is one of the interesting things to any one who looks at the catalogues of the colleges of the country, to see how they are becoming each year more and more, the educators of business men. A generation ago the great majority of college graduates went into professions. To-day a large part of them go into commercial life. There are two reasons for this. In the first place, a great many of the men who go to college to-day without having any other idea than of making the most of their life, find that the business opportunities and the business responsibilities of the present generation are so large that there is no object of their ambition so worthy as business success. And, on the other hand, a great many men, who intend from the first to go into business, find the responsibilities of business so difficult, the vastness of its problems so great, that they prefer to take many years instead of few in preparing themselves for these responsibilities.

The combination of these two things has brought our colleges into closer connection with the world of commerce at present than they ever were in the past. And now the question comes up, How shall they fulfil—how shall the colleges fulfil—the new duties which are laid upon them by the necessity of preparation for this wide worth? Now, to begin with, it is very easy to say what they shall not do. They cannot do their work by undertaking to instruct the boys in the details of what they will find it necessary to do in the office. If they learn these details from books they would have to learn it over again, to unlearn all they had learned, and learn it better from the experience of practical life.

AIMS IN EDUCATION.

I remember a few years ago that an old lady asked me what I was teaching, and I said that I taught economics, and she said thoughtfully, "Oh, yes, you teach the students to be economical. That is good. When I was a young lady they never learned to be economical until they got married." The same thing holds good in a good many wider applications. Nor, on the other hand, can we go to the other extreme and attempt to teach them theory, generalization, which will make them believe from the outset that they are wiser than their fathers. Perhaps when they grow older they will be wiser than their fathers. We always theoretically hope so, though we dislike to see it tried. But if they first start into life with the idea that they are wiser than their fathers they are doomed to first class disappointment. What we do mean in education is, first and foremost, to teach them the sense of proportion, to teach them which things are small and which things are large.

Modern business has expanded itself to such a degree and has grown so great that it is impossible to-day for a man to take at once the large leadership of the whole and the small oversight of the details. He must look to see which things are worth doing, must know how to measure his power, know which are the great things that he must do and which are the small things that he must leave to others. You know of the man, probably, who objected to the reputation for wisdom that Solomon had. He said he did not think that Solomon was so wise a man, after all, and they asked him why, and he said that in the Book of Proverbs he kept slipping up, and they asked him where, and he said: "Well, for instance, he made a terrible mistake in that verse, 'Take care of the pennies and the pounds will take care of themselves.'"

We have got to train men who shall see which are the large things to attend to, to understand organization, to understand division of labor in its broad sense, to understand the opportunities which lie before them, and to select those opportunities for which they are fitted. Now, I can only indicate a few ways among many in which this can be done. In the first place, our men must learn to use their time, to divide their time. As business is done to-day, we do in five minutes what the past generations took five hours to perform. If a man attempts to make those five minutes, to repeat those five minutes all through the day, he will kill himself. He must have outside interests, both in work and in play. Not the least part of modern education is the education to honorable enjoyment of things outside of work.

THE CULTIVATION OF IDEALS.

A man who has never learned to do anything except that which lies before him becomes in the intensity of modern life more and more a machine. To have a whole life he must forget these things. He must have the healthful spirit of enjoyment. Life is not all business. Life is something wider, and more and more as each year goes on, to do our business well in the hours that we devote for it, we must have some other things besides business to take our attention and keep us alive and all round men.

Nor is it that alone that makes us all round men. The modern business man must learn to have enjoyment of the great things of literature and history. Now, all of you, I think, in the midst of your busy life work have felt the need of this and have accomplished something of it. But there is a tremenodus advantage to the boy who in the years when his character is most plastic can come into contact with the great deeds of other times recorded in past history and with the great ideals of all ages recorded in poetry; can learn their spirit, can see that the present life is not all; and a college education, in the very things that seem most useless for moneymaking, gives to the boy this power of getting outside the present world, gives the sense of proportion by which his lifework is not the whole for which he is striving, but a part of the larger whole, lasting for centuries past and through centuries in the future; an idea which ennobles his business and ennobles him.

And this is important in the present day more than it has ever been in the past, for as business becomes larger it takes more and more the character of a trust. The word as it is applied to our large manufacturing combinations is but an accident, and yet in its application to the great work of production and distribution in the world to-day, to the work as you do it, it has the profoundest of meanings. Your business is a trust. It is a thing which you do not for yourselves, but for others. You have in your hands the destinies of hundreds and of thousands and of hundreds of thousands of people. There is in the swaying of these lives an element of moral responsibility to which the commercial world is slowly but surely awakening.

The education which shall fit men for the business of the future must be one in all its lines that shall show the young men of the country that moral character, that essential responsibility that is connected with the possession and use of money. The children must learn from their early years what the fathers are slowly and gradually learning. We are told, and told rightly, that each new generation is on the basis to which its fathers have lifted it. We have lifted ourselves, are still lifting ourselves to this sense of moral responsibility. Both of the previous speakers, each in his own way, have exemplified this truth. Now, the great defence of our existing social life, that which protects it against the dangers of revolutionary socialism, is the recognition by the leaders of commerce of the fact that money getting is not a means of avarice, not a means of power to be used for others.

That education is best and highest which most fully brings home to the boy by illustrations of history, by inspirations of literature, by the teachings of the everyday life of the present time, that none of us liveth for himself; that possession means power, and that power means duty.

Whatever form the education of the next generation may take—and there are many unsettled questions before the work of our colleges—for this one thing we may be sure: they will and they must educate men to take your places who will have from the beginning the conception to which you have attained in your business life of business success as a trust, of power and influence in the country as a duty to the country and to God.

WHITELAW REID'S SPEECH.

Whitelaw Reid, speaking upon "The Existing Friendly Relations Between the United States and Great Britain," said:

You ask me to speak of the good relations between Great Britain and the United States. Here for once in our public dinners is a subject with a shade of novelty! We have not had so very long a time in which we could speak of such relations. You will permit me, perhaps, to recall that they began to attract attention only about the date of the Queen's Jubilee, and that, but a year or two earlier, there was a deal of talk about the danger of their becoming quite the reverse. Possibly all this was not very strange. It is a fact, as a London audience was once frankly reminded during the Jubilee, that of the three serious wars the United States had had, up to that time, two were with Great Britain; while in the third, the successful side felt that the sympathies of the British ruling classes had been against it. Recalling the whole sad history, the inherited bitterness of the original family quarrel, the education of succeeding generations, and more recent circumstances, we must frankly admit that the latent feeling, which flamed out so fiercely in the Venezuelan dispute, was, after all, not so very unnatural.

But it was very deplorable. Hatred of any race is unhappy, as well as the sure sign of a narrow and provincial spirit. Hatred of the race and people and home of our own grandparents is unhappiest of all. Besides, a truly great people cannot hate. We should despise ourselves if we hated the Algerines, or the Indians, or the Mexicans or the Spaniards—all of whom we have also fought. Why should we ever have fancied that we had a fixed National hatred for those who were so much nearer and ought to have been so much dearer to us? Why, indeed, unless we imagined our people to be permanently under the influence of two of the meanest passions of the human heart—jealousy and revenge?

If the American people ever felt either, through long periods of time, or if demagogues were able to persuade the unthinking among them that they did, thank God the last war has purged that distemper from their veins. If the British people ever felt either, the warm hand clasp of human and race sympathy, and of pride in the worldwide muster of the tribes, on the 60th Anniversary of the Good Queen's coronation, had already melted it out of their minds and souls.

So we are starting fair again. There is no gush about it, and we hope there will be no nonsense. We are making no rash committals about each other's affairs; and are, each of us, purposing very diligently to mind our own business. There is no alliance, no probability of any, and no need of any. Besides, we have, each of us, a good deal on our own hands. But one fact remains. We are the two greatest nations of the races that rule and are to rule the world; and we are friends, not enemies. There is and there will remain a good understanding between us. We wish each other well. We rejoice in all each other's worthy successes. If unhappily reverses should come to either and sadness should darken its homes, the hearts of the other will not be gay. There are some in this land who can tell you that when your representatives were striving in a foreign capital for peace, on the basis of the just rights of their country and its duties to Civilization and Humanity, there were times when the European sky might have looked dark, but for the light from across the British channel. In like manner, beyond the ocean are those who do not forget the old story of how when famine touched the most beautiful and unfortunate of the British Isles, relief sprang spontaneously from this side of the Atlantic. So too, there are those there to-day whose children's children will not forget that when war's desolation burst upon remote lands, teeming with adventurous pioneers of our race, London women of American origin, organizing relief for the sick and wounded, Briton or Boer, found here an instant response to their request for the benefits of our recent experience. American surgeons, American orderlies and trained nurses sprang forward in New-York as ready and eager to equip the hospital ship for South Africa as they had been, a little while before, for a similar service to Humanity among their own people at Manila.

Long ago Thomas Jefferson remarked that of all the nations of the earth, Great Britain could do us the most harm, and therefore we should sedulously cultivate a cordial friendship with her. These later days have shown that, of all the nations of the earth, Great Britain and the United States can give each other the most cheer and do each other the most good. There is a nobler motive, on both sides, for the same sedulous cultivation of the same cordial friendship.

In the lamentable wars in which both are for the moment unhappily involved, the utmost either need do is to hope for the other, as for itself, an honorable and a speedy end to conflicts which neither began. Few thinking people seriously suppose either war can have any but the one obvious and inevitable result. The heavier battalions will win. For the rest, whatever may be the natural sympathies aroused for the feebler side in either war, and whatever may be urged in partial justification of the attacks by which they precipitated hostilities, the dispassionate observer will not doubt that, in both cases, the end which is thus foreseen from the beginning will be best for the security of personal rights, for the ordered liberty and the advancing civilization of the world.

We cannot but regret that, in one case, the victory will bring some natural pangs to as noble a race as dwells in Europe;—the race that stood like a rock when the flood of Spanish aggression threatened to overflow the continent; the race that gave to England William of Orange, and to America the city of New-York. But Dutch sympathy with illusory Afrikander aspirations will breed no blood feud. Meanwhile it cannot prevent the return of good relations between the two peoples of the world nearest to ourselves in origin, aims and interests, the two great Indo-Germanic peoples ruled from London and Berlin. That is an event momentous in the world's history, auspicious for us, and auspicious for the solution of the Eastern problems in which we must now bear our share. No doubt it is our duty to cultivate friendly relations with all peoples; and they may be right who say that in general we should seek no special relations with any. But you cannot overrule the forces of Nature, or bind with the parchment of diplomatists the hidden and irresistible influences of blood and history. I say without hesitation that if there are three great Nations in the world that God and Nature meant for eternal peace and amity with each other, those three are Great Britain, Germany and the United States. There is obviously every reason why England and Germany should now be friends. Yet more should the United States welcome and prize the growing friendship of each. We are rivals in trade just as you friendly merchants of New-York are all rivals in trade. But we are also indispensable customers to each other, and we have a common interest in the East—the interest of the Open Door.

"Where a certain country plants a colony," said a European statesman once in a moment of unguarded candor, "you may as well mark that region off the commercial map of the world. It no longer exists." No man ever said that of an English or a German or an American colony; and it is to the interest of all three of us that no nation shall be able to mark the Farther East off the commercial map of the world.

Here and there one still hears a discordant voice, declaring that the United States cannot do what it committed itself to in the Treaty of Paris,—maintain the policy of the Open Door in its Eastern possessions. But this is a notion based upon confusion as to the different uses of the term "the United States" in the Constitution. No use of it justifies the contention that territory or other property is necessarily an integral part of the United States; and the unbroken line of decisions by the highest courts for over half a century sustains the absolute right of our country to acquire such territory anywhere and govern it as we please. We have pledged the Open Door in the Philippines to Spain by a document which is now the supreme law of the land as well as the Constitution, and what we give to Spain we shall not refuse to the most favored Nations. The Philippines then are, through our possession, added to the commercial map of the world, and I venture to think that in the century that is dawning they will fill a large space upon it.

Does any one in this company of great merchants ask what good our trade with them will be to us, if they are open to everybody? Let me answer by asking what good our trade to Great Britain is to us? It is open to everybody. Or our trade with France, or with Germany? Does any one believe that, with the political control, and with the Pacific Ocean in our hands, we must still be such feeble competitors in Eastern markets that we cannot command trade? I have not thus rated the enterprise or the ability of my countrymen.

So we welcome to the East all the world; and are sure that those we shall see oftenest there will be our English and our German friends. Together we shall enter the vast, awaking unknown, where dwell one-fourth the people of the world; and together in peaceful rivalry we must bear our respective shares of the White Man's burden in the dark places of the earth.

Before the company separated the toast of "The Army and Navy" was honored on the suggestion of Mr. Jesup.

Among the many visitors who listened to the speeches from the gallery was George Goodwin Dewey, the son of Admiral Dewey, who acted as escort to two young women.

THE MENU A FINE ONE.

The illustration on the cover of the menu was carried out in steel plate and die work, and suggested peace and prosperity. A seated figure of Columbia held a medallion, upon which was the head of Hermes or Mercury, the god of commerce. She looked out upon a view of New-York, showing the East River Bridge, a part of the waterfront, the shipping, factories and the like. At her feet was the beehive, entwined by a grapevine, a symbol of industry and fruitfulness. In the background were palm trees, suggestive of the tropical countries recently brought into connection with the United States, and the United States cruiser Olympia. On the left of the space occupied by the lettering were fish and game suspended from a thyrsus. On the right was a piece of diework in green and gold, showing a palm branch, on which were hung shields containing the seals of the State of New-York and of the Chamber of Commerce. The inscription read:

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
of the
STATE OF NEW-YORK,
131ST ANNUAL BANQUET,
TUESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER THE
TWENTY-FIRST,
1899.

MURAL DECORATIONS.

The banquet hall was decorated by Koster, in a more elaborate manner than usual. Last year a special feature was made by the introduction of masses of English and American flags, in recognition of the good feeling existing between the two countries. While this idea was also carried out to some extent on this occasion, other nations were also represented.

Behind and above the president's chair the flags of the United States, England, France and Germany were grouped around the seal of the Chamber of Commerce, surmounted by the United States coat-of-arms, set in cluster of American flags with a golden eagle. In the panels between the mirrors on either side of these were masses of Austrian, Japanese, Danish, Russian, Italian, Norwegian, Swedish, Chinese, as well as Spanish, flags, with the coats-of-arms of New-York State and New-York City, and American flags and banners, with golden eagles.

On the opposite wall the coat-of-arms of Great Britain, with appropriate surroundings, formed the central feature. All the doors and windows were curtained with American and English colors, surmounted by golden birds of freedom. The front of the balcony and cornice around the room were hung with a valance of the flags of these two countries, producing in all a handsome effect, which was reflected many times by the score of large mirrors about the hall.

GUESTS AT THE TABLES.

Here is the list of those who sat at the various tables, as prepared and given out by the Committee of Arrangements:

PRESIDENT'S TABLE.

Morris K. Jesup, President Chamber of Commerce.
Ex-Speaker Thomas B. Reed.
James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture.
Major General Wesley Merritt.
The Rev. Dr. Henry van Dyke.
Samuel D. Babcock, ex-president Chamber of Commerce.
Chauncey M. Depew, United States Senator elect.
John Barrett, ex-Minister to Siam.
Samuel Sloan.
Governor Theodore Roosevelt.
President Arthur T. Hadley of Yale University.
Whitelaw Reid.
President Seth Low of Columbia University.
St. Clair McKelway.
William Butler Duncan.
Frank A. Vanderlip, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.
John T. Agnew.
Senator Thomas C. Platt.
Alexander E. Orr, ex-president Chamber of Commerce.
Carl Schurz.
Horace White.

TABLE A.

Barstow Drake-Smith.
William Skinner, jr.
Darwin R. Aldridge.
Putnam B. Strong.
Albert R. Shattuck.
Oliver W. Buckingham.
W. Jenks Merritt.
Hart B. Brundrett.
Jacques Huber.
Robert Schwarzenbach.
George Wilson.
John F. Anderson, jr.
Richard Young.
Lucius N. Littauer.
Albert F. Hochstadter.
John A. Kunkel.
H. P. Frothingham.
F. M. Thieriot.
Scott Foster.
Henry Dalley, jr.
Franklin Allen.
Edward A. Wickes.
William H. Hollister.
George H. Macy.
Kalman Haas.
Laurence J. Callanan.
Stewart Hartshorn.
William D. Baldwin.
George J. Laighton.
Carl Brucker.
Charles E. Bulkley.
Alfred E. Marling.
Henry J. Lamarche.
Charles F. Brooker.
William Tousey.
William O. Fayerweather.
William R. Peters.
William H. Nichols.
Solomon B. Solomon.
Henry A. Cæsar.
Edward W. Dewey.
Andrew J. Robinson.
George B. Hopkins.
Silas B. Dutcher.
William H. Perkins.
Charles F. Clark.
C. Adolphe Low.
Anson W. Hard.
John L. Riker.

TABLE B.

John T. Waring.
Arthur B. Waring.
Charles C. Boardman.
George H. Coutts.
William D. Murphy.
James McCreery.
Lincoln K. Passmore.
Joseph G. Darlington.
R. Dale Benson.
Aug. C. Bechstein.
Frank A. Ferris.
Forrest H. Parker.
B. Frank Hooper.
Eugene G. Blackford.
Robert J. Kimball.
Henry H. Benedict.
James W. Cromwell.
Charles A. Moore.
George Gray Ward.
Charles D. Freeman.
John L. Dudley.
Charles L. Rickerson.
William H. B. Totten.
William F. Buckley.
George H. Burford.
John W. Wilson.
Benjamin M. Day.
Henry A. McGee.
Ludwig Dreyfuss.
Henry Goldman.
Thomas B. Ball.
Arthur W. Watson.
Henry R. Ickelheimer.
Eugene Arnstein.
Calvin B. Orcutt.
Henry H. Vail.
A. Willard Kingman.
Samuel D. Coykendall.
William H. Porter.
George G. Williams.
Samuel Thomas.
Cornelius N. Bliss.
Augustus D. Juilliard.

TABLE C.

James M. Constable.
William T. Wardwell.
N. S. W. Vanderhoef.
Frank H. Lovell.
Thomas B. Kent.
John P. Duncan.
William A. Putnam.
John F. Praeger.
Elkan Naumburg.
Sigourney W. Fay.
Seth M. Milliken.
Walter W. Naumburg.
George W. Naumburg.
Hugh O'Neill.
Henry Seligman.
George A. Crocker.
John L. Arts.
James A. Burden.
William F. Cochran.
Henry T. Sloane.
George Austin Morrison.
Charles H. Ludington.
George H. Robinson.
Charles T. Cook.
John J. Sinclair.
Corcelius H. Hackett.
David H. Houghtaling.
Clarence Whitman.
Frederick S. Pinkus.
Francis L. Hine.
George H. Southard.
Amzi L. Barber.
Hermann Schaeffer.
Francis B. Griffin.
Alexander Maitland.
John B. Dutcher.
Clarence M. Hyde.
Stephen Baker.
George McNeir.
William Sloane.
Anthony Van Bergen.
John Sloane.
John S. Kennedy.

TABLE D.

Charles M. Jesup.
Alexander M. Hudnut.
Beverly Chew.
George F. Hodgman.
Roland F. Knoedler.
Herbert L. Griggs.
William F. King.
Alfred H. Smith.
Howard C. Smith.
Charles Hathaway.
Lee Kohns.
Isidor Straus.
Abraham Abraham.
Stephen V. White.
Willis S. Paine.
Hiram Hitchcock.
Thomas B. Clarke.
J. Kennedy Tod.
John D. Crimmins.
John Jacob Astor.
John Claflin.
James B. Colgate.
James C. Colgate.
William H. Male.
William Brookfield.
Abraham G. Mills.
J. Henry Deeves.
Richard Deeves.
Erastus Wiman.
Francis B. Thurber.
William M. Fliess.
Frank Dean.
Louis Stern.
Isaac Stern.
Warner Van Norden.
Henry R. Towne.
Charles A. Hoyt.
Samuel P. Avery.
Darius O. Mills.
Woodbury Langdon.
Charles S. Smith.

TABLE E.

Bradford Rhodes.
Seymour L. Cromwell.
Frederic Cromwell.
Walter G. Oakman.
Richard Butler.
Thomas Wood.
Francis D. Lecompte.
Joseph C. Willetts.
Clarence S. Day.
Silas A. Isley.
William E. Curtis.
Howard Carroll.
George R. Sheldon.
John A. McCall.
John H. Starin.
Alfred Van Santvoord.
Rudolph Ellis.
A. Barton Hepburn.
Henry M. Flagler.
George J. Gould.
Daniel S. Lamont.
Augustus D. Shepard.
Francis S. Smithers.
John Doull Miller.
Gilbert M. Plympton.
Henry S. Kerr.
Ruel W. Poor.
Frank S. Witherbee.
Trenor L. Park.
Samuel Bancroft, jr.
Juan M. Ceballos.
Frederick T. Adams.
George F. Baker.
George Rutledge Gibson.
Edward Tuck.
Grant B. Schley.
William H. Truesdale.
John I. Waterbury.
H. McK. Twombly.
Clement A. Griscom.
Paul Dana.
Andrew J. Cassatt.
Henry W. Cannon.

TABLE F.

Carl Schefer.
Fritz Achelis.
George A. Hearn.
Arthur H. Hearn.
George E. Schanck.
Clarkson Cowl.
Frederick B. Schenck.
Gilson S. Whitson.
Walter E. Frew.
William H. Jackson.
Charles R. Miller.
James W. Tappin.
Frank Tilford.
William Sherer.
Rudolph Keppler.
John H. Jacquelin.
John K. Cilley.
Robert M. Gallaway.
Brayton Ives.
George Coppell.
Richard T. Wilson.
Thomas Achelis.
Louis F. Dommerich.
Ewald Fleitmann.
Isaiah Josephi.
Cyrus L. Sulzberger.
Jordan L. Mott.
Oliver S. Carter.
Henry A. Rogers.
Edward Cary.
George A. Kessler.
J. Edgar Leaycraft.
James G. Cannon.
Charles R. Flint.
Robert A. C. Smith.
Richard Delafield.
Edward E. Poor.
Levi C. Weir.
Frederic C. Wagner.
Vernon H. Brown.
William A. Nash.
Frederick D. Tappen.
J. Edward Simmons.

TABLE G.

James Hedges.
Robert Dun Douglass.
James A. Roberts.
Gates W. McGarrah.
George Q. Palmer.
Francis F. Palmer.
Nicholas F. Palmer.
Otto H. Kahn.
Mortimer L. Schiff.
Felix M. Warburg.
James Loeb.
Abraham Wolff.
Alfred Salin.
Jacob H. Schiff.
Edwin H. Weatherbee.
Joseph S. Stout.
Colgate Hoyt.
William R. Stewart.
Marcellus Hartley.
John Crosby Brown.
James Stillman.
Christopher C. Shayne.
Charles H. Stout.
Stephen W. Roach.
John H. Wood.
Stevenson Taylor.
William Rowland.
George E. Weed.
Benjamin Altman.
Michael Friedsam.
William Leys.
John H. Flagler.
John R. Thomas.
Roderick W. Cameron.
Henry Clews.
Clarence W. Bowen.
Lispenard Stewart.
William Dodsworth.
James A. Wright, jr.
George Foster Peabody.
Daniel F. Appleton.
William E. Dodge.
John A. Stewart.

TABLE H.

Lewis Nixon.
Walter S. Johnston.
Charles W. Carpenter.
Adolph Wempfheimer.
Albert Friedlander.
James S. Inglis.
S. Charles Welsh.
Francis E. Dodge.
Edward H. Litchfield.
Robert B. Woodward.
Carl H. De Silver.
Webster C. Estes.
James G. White.
Herman Sielcken.
Samuel T. Hubbard.
Paul F. Gerhard.
Chandler N. Wayland.
Henry L. Stoddard.
Robert E. A. Dorr.
Charles W. Morse.
Cornelius A. Pugsley.
George William Kemp.
S. Phillips Mendel.
Dick S. Ramsay.
Aristides Martinez.
Leonard Lewisohn.
Alfred Romer.
Stuart G. Nelson.
Franklin Quinby.
Cornelius Zabriskie.
Robert D. Farlee.
Jacob S. Farlee.
Edward D. Faulkner.
H. B. Dominick.
J. Sinclair Armstrong.
F. Wolcott Jackson.
Bernard S. Gunther.
Franklin L. Gunther.
Albert G. Ropes.
John U. Fraley.
Edwin Langdon.
Richard Limburger.
Seth E. Thomas.
Silas D. Webb.
John Foord.
Charles A. Schieren.
Frank S. Jones.
Everett Frazar.
Henry Hentz.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

Henry W. Cannon.
J. Edward Simmons.
Charles S. Smith.
John A. Stewart.
John S. Kennedy.

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ALBENIZ. Les Saisons—The Seasons. Pianola.
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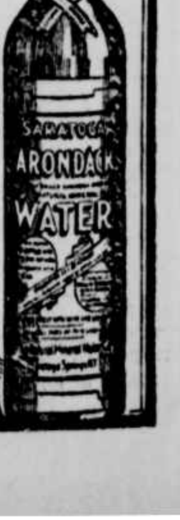

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