

PERE HYACINTHE.

His Great Speech at the Recent Peace Conference. His Views on Institutions, Interests, and Virtues.

The following is a full report of the great speech of Father Hyacinthe at the Peace Congress, which was so severely condemned by the authorities of the Church.

On Saturday Morning. Oct. 21, at 11 o'clock, at the Hotel Mill, Center street, Philadelphia, the following took place: A large number of gentlemen and ladies were present.

On Sunday Morning. Oct. 22, at 10 o'clock, at the Hotel Mill, Center street, Philadelphia, the following took place: A large number of gentlemen and ladies were present.

On Monday Morning. Oct. 23, at 10 o'clock, at the Hotel Mill, Center street, Philadelphia, the following took place: A large number of gentlemen and ladies were present.

On Tuesday Morning. Oct. 24, at 10 o'clock, at the Hotel Mill, Center street, Philadelphia, the following took place: A large number of gentlemen and ladies were present.

On Wednesday Morning. Oct. 25, at 10 o'clock, at the Hotel Mill, Center street, Philadelphia, the following took place: A large number of gentlemen and ladies were present.

On Thursday Morning. Oct. 26, at 10 o'clock, at the Hotel Mill, Center street, Philadelphia, the following took place: A large number of gentlemen and ladies were present.

On Friday Morning. Oct. 27, at 10 o'clock, at the Hotel Mill, Center street, Philadelphia, the following took place: A large number of gentlemen and ladies were present.

On Saturday Morning. Oct. 28, at 10 o'clock, at the Hotel Mill, Center street, Philadelphia, the following took place: A large number of gentlemen and ladies were present.

from the corrupting life of garrisons, and organized in a manner to find its greatest satisfaction in peace. We are told of the six thousand men which now compose all the effective of the United States. I don't think that we are yet sufficiently advanced towards the polar star of the future to be contented with that number; but we have on the old continent other examples, more in relation with our social state, which does not allow I do not say to copy, but rather to imitate with originality. In the best part of Europe the soldier is less valued than with us from the life of the family. It is in cultivating the soil, it is in dwelling by the hearth, that he learns the better to love and defend them. Pro aris et foveis. But why look elsewhere than at home? Have we forgotten the first wars of our republic, and those wholesale drafts to save the country, and those armies of peasants without training, even without shoes and without bread, who went away, covering the frontiers with a rocky grid, to come from the forgotten shames within—the scaffold and the guillotine—and to repel the old armies of Europe coalesced against us?

I have now a word to say of interests. Earthly interests are great things. They are full of ideas and of virtues; and after all, since God has placed us on earth—it is not for the purpose of dreaming of Heaven either, but for the purpose of deserving it—it is by the conquest of the earth that man marches to the conquest of Heaven. The sacred Book tells us that God in His wisdom has made man establish the world in justice and truth. These are words which cannot be too well meditated or applied. Gentlemen and ladies, the justice of man to the earth is agriculture, industry, and commerce. Agriculture holds the first place. This earth, wrapped in a lethargic slumber, is awakened by the vigorous arm of the laborer; she drinks the sweat of the man; she is intoxicated with that bitter and holy liquor, and taking a disgust for her native barbarism, she bends herself active and joyous to the culture which transforms and fertilizes her. Behold the earth, established in justice and truth, become the nurse of multitudes, opening her large breasts to the man of all nations, and pouring upon them in great floods that physical life without which the moral life itself would speedily be drained. The peasant has purchased these riches, which, with a just pride, he hands over to the workman of our manufactures, saying to him, "Brother, finish my work, and commence thine; pursue the great labor prescribed to humanity by God; and the industrial workman takes the fruit of agriculture. He calls from everywhere the concealed or rebellious humanity. It is possible that, in the future more or less remote, humanity may have that grand courage which shall render this part of the continent something of that which has been called the United States of Europe. But, in truth, this day is not that of which I speak, nor to-morrow; and, by consequence, such an institution can scarcely figure among the efficacious barriers which we wish to oppose to war. I prefer to record two strong powers of the day—diplomacy, representing governments; opinion, representing peoples. It is the affair of diplomacy and the affair of opinion, lifting themselves, both, to the height of the mission to which the will of God to the nations has appointed them, to oppose to invasions that bar of insurmountable obstacles. Let diplomacy abjure the Machiavellian spirit, reject that false science of expedients, and that bad word, the ruse; let it illuminate itself by the great light of principles, let it inspire itself by the flame of generous sentiments; and very soon there will be constituted in all great European centres an International League, a permanent and sovereign Peace Congress. But why do I only speak of Europe when I hear said that from the depths of Asia, across the vast deserts of the Great Wall, and China sends her son of young America, and reclines by her representative the honor of being introduced into the communion of civilized nations. This is the secret of that diplomacy which truly has the secret of the future. However, it is less to diplomacy than to public opinion that we must needs recur for our peace projects. Pascal has said opinion is queen of the world, whilst force is but its tyrant. It was the aura of public opinion which scarcely had glared in the days of Pascal and of Louis XV. It has spread since; it touches its margin, and everywhere it calls to arms to put an end to the caprices of despotic governments. Personal governments have been able to have their excuse for being, and their utility, in other ages. A child must needs have a master, a preceptor, very personal; but, as St. Paul said, in speaking of regenerated humanity, we are no longer children nor slaves; we have the right to enter into possession of our heritage; and that why this is no longer the day of personal governments, it is the day of the government of public opinion; of the government of a country by itself, and because all countries call upon one another to stretch out their hands, this will be very soon the hour of the government of humanity by itself. Now, then, I ask the peoples today, are they for war or for peace? From the shores of America to those of Europe, and to all the countries of the world, one great cry arises and replies, Peace! Humanity, it is said in the speeches we have just heard—humanity to-day, more than ever, feels itself one in its aspirations and motives in particular countries; it sees, however, above these countries, the universal country—that city of God and of men, of which the apostle said, *Dei civitas, civitas hominum*. (This universal world, one common city of gods and men.) Humanity has the consciousness that every war in its bosom is a civil war. It no longer wishes to be a camp, but a forum, and a market, with a temple above, whether it shall want to adore its God. Gentlemen and ladies, I was about forgetting one institution for which I have been accused, in other circumstances, however, of being partial. That institution is the army. I believe that, well-understood and well-organized, the army is one of the most powerful instruments of peace. The pure type of the warrior seems to me to be in our epoch almost as necessary to civilization as that of the priest, and I should be sorry not to render justice to it. I should like to speak of those monstrous armies born in feverish days under the influence of a destructive spirit, and which, changing peace into a scourge almost as dreadful as war itself, dig, beneath the tread of their heavy battalions, bottomless abysses in the finances of the State; in the prosperity of families; in the noble blood of so many young men, sterilized or corrupted. Certainly that is not what I admire, and when Europe shall wake from her terrible dream of some years, not content with effacing such scandals from her laws and her manners, she will think that she cannot expunge them from her history. What we need is an army reduced to its legitimate proportions, withdrawn in times of peace

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