

leading manufacturing and commercial nations of the world. The reason is not far to seek and the fact is an object lesson to foreign nations. We are devoting all our wealth, all our energies, and all our time to the development of peaceful vocations, and are not giving our first thoughts and the best years of our young men to build up a great war machine lest our neighbors become more powerful than we.

In a few short months the history of the nineteenth century will be made. It is a history of which we may well be proud; a history of the most wonderful discoveries and the most remarkable advances in every avenue of science and industry; of a growth which almost equals the Tales of the Arabian Nights. Inventions beyond the wildest dreams of a century ago have wrenched from nature a few of her most carefully guarded secrets, and man, instead of fighting her forces, now compels them to do his bidding. As master mind he opens a valve and hundreds of tons of mass go thundering over the face of the earth at the speed of the winds. He touches a key and his thoughts are flashed around the world. He speaks and his voice is heard across a continent. Nature stands aghast at man's audacity, and wonders what the next command will be.

But while we have learned to build, we have also learned to destroy. The old muzzle-loading musket has given place to the magazine rifle and machine gun. The old smooth-bore cannon stands aside for the breech-loading monster which delivers death and destruction at a definite point ten miles away. In place of the old wooden war ship we have the modern floating steel and iron fort which, with all its intricate labor-saving machinery, seems a living sentient being. Not content with these, man has learned to travel in the air and under the waves and to deal to his enemy, when least expected, a mortal blow. He touches a button and a great ship floating peacefully at anchor on the quiet waters miles away, with its hundreds of human souls sleeping in fancied security, are blown to fragments.

It remains for the closing days of the nineteenth century to record the crowning act of all. If only sufficient wisdom has gathered at the House in the Woods to check the growth of war preparations and to divert to avenues of peace at least a part of the wealth of brain and brawn now going to preserve the balance of power, the year eighteen hundred ninety-nine will be the