

the general policy of equal opportunity which has always been so strongly advocated by the United States, since the time of John Hay, and the door was opened with China's consent to the financiers of the other Powers already associated with the United States in the railway loan.

America has frequently been criticised abroad, and especially in the Far East, for seeking to exert in China an influence out of all proportion to the importance of its vested interests. By the successful completion of the two loans above referred to the United States has now for the first time such a substantial interest in the material development of China and in the revenues which have been hypothecated as security for the loans as to give it more than a moral right to have a voice in all questions affecting China's welfare. In addition, those interests have been so associated with the interests of other leading Powers by common financial ties that it is to the interest of all alike to join in maintaining the political integrity of China and to unite in sympathetic and practical cooperation for the peaceful development of the Chinese Empire. For as Secretary Knox has well said, "Where nations invest their capital they are intent upon preserving peace and promoting the development of natural resources and the prosperity of the people."

The first step only has been taken on the road to the essential monetary and fiscal reforms of the Chinese Empire, but it has been a long and practical step and the interests of the Powers have been so united as not only to secure an open door for the commerce of all the world but virtually to neutralize the whole broad field of China's industrial and fiscal enterprises.

#### THE PONTIFICAL LETTER OF JUNE 11, 1911, ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE.

In a moment of despair and darkness, in the midst of the Crimean war, the late John Bright impressively and solemnly declared that "the Angel of Death has been abroad throughout the land; you can almost hear the beating of his wings." Were he alive today and could he speak from his place in the House of Commons, he would vary his beautiful and poetic figure by declaring, no less solemnly and impressively, that "the Angel of Peace is abroad throughout the land; you can almost hear the beating of his wings." For, on the 11th day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eleven, Pope Pius X voiced the hopes and aspirations of a struggling humanity

by a pronouncement in favor of peace, addressed not merely to the members of the Church universal, but to the enlightened of all countries, and assumed the moral leadership of the world. What we have, as it were, whispered in the closet, he has proclaimed from the housetop, and in a Pontifical letter,<sup>1</sup> as simple as it is sincere and touching, addressed to the Papal Delegate to the United States, he has not only shown the Church to be mindful of its divinely appointed mission, but has proved himself in fact the worthy representative of Him whose mission was peace. The present Pope does not live in the past; he sees the world as it actually is, in which "vast armies, instrumentalities most destructive of human life, and the advanced state of military science pretend wars which must be a source of fear even to the most powerful rulers."

Such being the fact, those who would better the world are indeed worthy of encouragement and commendation, and that even although their efforts do not of themselves change the stern realities of life, for, to quote the Pope's own words, "to compose differences, to restrain the outbreak of hostilities, to prevent the dangers of war, to remove even the anxieties of so-called armed peace, is, indeed, most praiseworthy, and any effort in this cause, even although it may not immediately or wholly accomplish its purpose, manifests nevertheless a zeal which can not but redound to the credit of its authors and be of benefit to the State." Wherefore, he says, "We most heartily commend the work already begun which should be approved by all good men and especially by Us, holding, as We do, the Supreme Pontificate of the Church, and representing Him Who is both the God and the Prince of Peace; and We most gladly lend the weight of Our authority to those who are striving to realize this most beneficent purpose." The goal may indeed be distant, but however distant, the Pope is not discouraged for he expresses the belief that the leaders of the movement, possessed of ability and versed in the conduct of state affairs, "will construct in behalf of a struggling age a royal road for the nations leading to peace and conciliation in accordance with the laws of justice and charity." The cause and its leaders are not only performing a great and meritorious work for which they deserve and receive commendation, but the Pope himself solemnly pledges his prayers to Almighty God that "He may be gracious to those who are furthering peace amongst the peoples and may grant to the nations, which with united purpose are laboring to this end, that, the destruction of war and its disasters being averted, they may at length find repose in the beauty of peace."

In the middle ages, the most powerful of emperors, barefoot and penitent, humbled himself before the Vicar of Christ; within the past generation, the man of "blood and iron" who had unified a Germany torn by a thousand years of dissension and armed conflict, went, as it were, to Canossa; in our own day, and in a higher sense, the world bows before the Pontiff true to his mission, armed only with the sword of the Spirit and the breast-plate of righteousness.

#### THE CHAMIZAL ARBITRATION AWARD.

The editorial comment of this JOURNAL for October, 1910,<sup>1</sup> noted the submission of the Chamizal boundary dispute between the United States and Mexico to arbitration. As stated in that editorial, the tract in dispute comprises an area of about six hundred acres between the channel of the Rio Grande as it ran in 1852, the date of the survey by Commissioners Emory and Salazar, and the present channel, which at this point runs considerably farther to the south. The tract is and during the process of its formation always has been physically and geographically a part of the city of El Paso, Texas, and about six thousand of the forty thousand inhabitants of the town now make their homes upon it. Mexico submitted a claim to the International Boundary Commission in 1894, but the Commissioners were unable to agree; the issue at that time being as to whether the change of channel was due to erosion or avulsion. By virtue of the treaty between the United States and Mexico of June 24, 1910,<sup>2</sup> the case was again sent before the International Boundary Commission, which was enlarged for the purpose of the consideration and decision of this case only by the addition of a third commissioner, a Canadian jurist, selected by the two governments acting in common accord. The Commission thus constituted consisted of the Honorable Eugene Lafleur, of Montreal, Canada, Presiding Commissioner; Brigadier-General Anson Mills, retired, American Commissioner, and Senor Don F. B. Puga, Mexican Commissioner. The treaty provided for the presentation of case, countercase and written and oral arguments, and for

<sup>1</sup> Vol. 4, pp. 925-930.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in SUPPLEMENT, April, 1911, p. 117.