

# **MOHONK ADDRESSES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649651160

Mohonk Addresses by Edward Everett Hale & David J. Brewer & Edwin D. Mead

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**EDWARD EVERETT HALE & DAVID J. BREWER & EDWIN D. MEAD**

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Edward E. Hale



# MOHONK ADDRESSES

BY

EDWARD EVERETT HALE

AND

DAVID J. BREWER

WITH INTRODUCTION

BY

EDWIN D. MEAD

PUBLISHED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PEACE  
GINN AND COMPANY, BOSTON

1910

TO  
ALBERT K. SMILEY  
AND HIS COWORKERS IN THE  
MOHONK ARBITRATION CONFERENCES  
WHO ARE WITNESSING AND HAVE DONE SO MUCH  
TO BRING ABOUT THE FULFILLMENT OF  
DOCTOR HALE'S GREAT DEMANDS AND PROPHECIES  
THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED

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## INTRODUCTION

In the great movement for the peace and better organization of the world, the commanding cause of our age, no man in America has rendered more conspicuous or influential service during the last twenty years than Edward Everett Hale. He was peculiarly the prophet of that special line of action, culminating in the Hague conferences and courts, which has distinguished the last decade and made it the most significant and decisive single period in the history of the peace movement. More clearly, more constantly, and more convincingly than any other of our leaders he insisted, from 1889 on, that the reign of peace and the reduction of the world's monstrous armaments could come only with adequate international organization and the creation of a judicial system, which should gradually win the confidence of the nations, to supplant the existing war system. He had no trust in makeshifts and improvisations to meet critical international crises; and when others talked of arbitration treaties and arbitration commissions, he talked of a permanent international tribunal. His speeches upon this subject in the first three Mohonk conferences on international arbitration were what gave to those conferences their chief distinction. The First Mohonk Conference was held in 1895, three years before the czar issued his rescript calling the First Hague Conference; and the year when this latter conference met (1899) was marked by perhaps Dr. Hale's most pregnant and

powerful utterances at Mohonk. His association with the Mohonk conferences, to which at the beginning his prophetic and constructive words so largely gave direction, was altogether so memorable that all who have been interested in the great work of those conferences in these sixteen years will welcome this effort to bring together into one volume all of his words spoken there. Present at the first conference in 1895, he was present at eight of the thirteen conferences up to 1907, being absent in 1898, 1900, 1905, and 1906. More than once when he was absent the special greetings of the conference were telegraphed to him. In 1906, the year before the Second Hague Conference, he sent through another an appeal to the Mohonk friends for a strong protest against the mad naval rivalry:

If our men at The Hague might only say that we will stop building more Dreadnoughts, if Great Britain and Germany are willing to say the same, if a clause to that effect can be got to the Senate from Mohonk this week [a bill for naval increase was then pending], that will turn the tide; that, I believe, will be the historical rock at the end of the war fury.

This was the uppermost question with him at the last; and his final Mohonk word — his last attendance was in 1907 — was one of remonstrance that the platform of that year did not speak out upon the limitation of armaments as he felt the situation commanded. He died June 10, 1909, just after Mohonk had in its platform spoken more strongly on this subject than ever before. He was eighty-seven years old; but as Dr. Channing was "always young for liberty," so Dr. Hale was always young for international justice; and the great cause held his throbbing heart to the end. Nowhere was he more sincerely mourned than at the Mohonk conference following his death, among whose