

**ARMS AND THE RACE:
THE FOUNDATIONS
OF ARMY REFORM**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649062461

Arms and the Race: The Foundations of Army Reform by R. M. Johnston

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
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NEW YORK
THE CENTURY CO.
1915

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Published, April, 1916

To

HON. ELIHU ROOT,

at one time Secretary of War and Reformer
of the United States Army.

PREFACE

In one way this book is an outcome of the war in Europe. Yet the opinions put forward are not the sudden creations of an overheated imagination. These opinions are based on historical study, and have found written or spoken form more than once in recent years for small audiences of special interests. There is little that is new here, save the appeal to a wider audience, and the piecing together by the light of recent events of a number of things which at first may seem unrelated, yet which irrefutably connect Marlborough and Frederick the Great with the present secretary of war of the United States!

It has been distasteful to have to

PREFACE

designate Powers like Japan and Germany. A rhetorical veil might have been spread over them, and I might have referred continuously to "a great Asiatic Power," or "a militarist state in Europe." On the whole it did not appear worth while. In fact it seemed to vitiate fundamentally the position here taken up, which is to discuss a vital national problem in the most direct and precise way possible, avoiding the vague generalities with which the public must by now be quite satiated. What is said of Germany, of Japan, and of other Powers, implies no unfriendliness, merely an attempt to state facts, sometimes unpleasant, as accurately as possible.

I must further explain that I have all through put to one side as much as I could the question of the navy. Yet the