

**CABLE INTERVIEW
BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND THE QUEEN**

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Cable Interview Between the President and the Queen by E. H. Kellogg

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BY

E. H. KELLOGG.



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CABLE INTERVIEW.



President. Madame—Your virtues constitute no inconsiderable part of the felicity of the present age. I know your purposes cannot be formulated in the public measures of your kingdom; but neither its constitutional restraints nor its territorial limits can baffle the vehement glow of your gracious goodness; and every province of civilized society, without as within your dominions, is touched and warmed by its beams. Our leading nations are now enjoying the reign of peace. With slight intermissions, this reign has been commensurate with yours; and the world cannot help associating the great blessing with Victoria; its august and anxious friend; who has been for a third of a century, throned

at the head of one of the foremost of the races of men. Illustrious period! Immortal, in human annals! For what other great earthly throne has shed on mankind, so abundantly, the influences of the gospel of peace. Princes, rulers, cabinets, from a chivalric deference to the sentiments of a humane queen, curb the violence of their councils. Human passion, that sports with the highest interests of mankind, feels the restraint, and hesitates in its career. You have modulated the voice of war itself. Perceptibly, it intones with less of thunderous harshness. I thank you. Few, indeed, are the titles to human regard, that you have not won. Elective, prescriptive, given of divine or human right; here is majesty that commands the homage of all. Nature's royalty, like her noblemen, silences all cavil, and awakens instant enthusiasm, wherever it appears. Conscious of this potential influence, you are no less conscious of your accountability, for its right use.

Queen. I hope I am, General. What do you mean?

Pres. In the position I now hold, I feel the same accountability; and I pray, madame, the privilege of a conversation with you.

Qu. Certainly, General, though I know not the subject.

Pres. It deeply concerns the public interests, and this is my apology for trespassing on your goodness.

Qu. Is it Cuba?

Pres. It involves more immediately the two branches of the British race.

Qu. Canada?

Pres. It grew out of our War of the Rebellion, madame.

Qu. "My prophetic soul!" The "Alabama claims."

Pres. Yes, madame.

Qu. Isn't that difficulty blowing over, General?

Pres. I think not, madame.

Qu. What's happened now? Has Mr. Sumner made another of his speeches?

Pres. It is a difficulty, madame, that will not settle itself; but the two nations can arrange it

speedily, if they will approach it in the right temper.

Qu. No doubt of it. Let us have a good talk about it, General.

Pres. Do you mind if I smoke, madame?

Qu. Oblige me, General, by smoking.

Pres. You may remember that when I opened the canvass for the American Chief Magistracy, I saluted the people with the strongest wish of my heart, "Let us have peace."

Qu. I do.

Pres. My country responded to the sentiment with significant emphasis.

Qu. A wise decision, General, we all think.

Pres. An emphasis that tells how dear is peace, not only to my war-wearied country, but to a war-wearied world. It is the inspiration of our national policy at home, and I would fain propound the same wish to all foreign nations, "Let us have peace."

Qu. Spoken like a Christian. Such rulers—

Pres. I turn with solemn solicitude to the elder branch of the British race, and utter the same prayer, "Let us have peace."

Qu. With all my heart. God knows my heart——

Pres. I am not unaccustomed to grave public responsibilities, and I assume them without fear ; but when I contemplate the relations between England and America, I experience an anxiety that is new to me. Madame, I would not have the memory of a desperate war between us follow me to my grave.

Qu. God forbid ! Nor I.

Pres. War in this age of the world is rarely, very rarely, justifiable. Providence summoned our people to battle, as the only means of relieving our country from slavery. We obeyed the orders and fought ; but as to the object of the war, the Supreme Commander kept his own counsels till it was nearly accomplished. We all see it now, and are reconciled. But who can believe that Providence initiates or sanctions any of the international wars of this age ? They are the work of weak and wicked cabinets ; of cold and tyrannical politicians, who laugh hideously at the mass of men who bear their burdens. Our own diplomatists are much above