

War and Woman.

Certainly I would have had no such conviction as this if for several years I had not been brooding over war, the causes and effects. I had even ~~tried~~^{attempted} soon after we went into the American to write a series which I called in my mind "The *Part* against War."

I suppose it came out of my Lincoln studies - the mystery I still felt had been born in that struggle.

One of the greatest, most indefatigable advocates in this country was Dr. Gordon, President of the Leland Stanford University. When I learned that he had started courses in the University devoted to the study of war I said to the office ~~to~~ let me go out and see if there might not be something there on which I could base the series over which ~~I~~ had been slowly ~~and~~ growing up in my mind. And so I went out. Nobody could have been kinder than Dr. Gordon and all the people at Stanford. But I had an awful sense of being swamped. If I had been willing to report in a single article what they were doing out there I might have made something ~~likely~~ that would have had ~~immediate~~ journalistic value, but I apparently was not made that way. I remember once in London when I was attempting to gather the material for ~~my~~ ~~scientific~~ an article which Mr. McClure had ordered. The gentleman from whom I was to get my information chiefly said to me with impatience one day, "Do you know what you are like? You are like the ~~actor~~ actor who when he played Otello insisted on blacking himself up all over."

I believe it is an old tale but it illustrates

what was the matter with me as a journalist. I couldn't be satisfied to be a reporter without a background. I had to go to the beginning of things before I began to report. I came home from the Stamford adventure thoroughly discouraged with an awful sense that something must be done or we were in for it again. As a matter of fact they did good things at Stamford. The world was doing excellent things organizing for peace. At that time there were something like sixty leading pacifists from all the countries of Europe, from Japan and the United States meeting in annual Conferences all in interest of peace. Surely, I told myself, it will be worked out. And now all that I had seen was upset.