

Butler's Journal.

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THE LIMIT OF LOYALTY

While the man who in any country in which he and his family get their living, whether he is a citizen or not, if he gives aid and comfort to the enemies of that country is a traitor, yet it does not follow that he should uphold that country in what he feels to be a wrong or injustice. In the Boer War and other wars, we condemned the British Government for lending their aid to the commission of crime, although the conscience of Britain and her colonies was dead against it. We did not act judiciously in that we were too outspoken and made enemies by our action, but we have not a word to take back of what we said against Jo Chamberlain, Cecil Rhodes, Dr. Jamieson and the others engaged in this infamy. We did not know anything about the Boers beyond the fact that they were being grievously wronged. We knew and loved the English, and having their blood in our veins we cared more for the honor of that blood than for the wrong done the Boers. But we went as far as we felt justified in going—by recording an honorable protest, and many who then condemned us have since come around to our way of thinking, but on no account would we be guilty of waging war against Britain. If we had been as rich as Rockefeller while we would not have given her a cent to wage an unjust war upon an unoffending people, we would not have given them a cent in their struggle against Britain.

Now, we never form an opinion before we have got a good grasp of the facts in the case from reli-

able and impartial sources, and in the light of our information we believe that the war in which Britain is now engaged in is as righteous, just and as much in the interests of humanity as the former war was cruel, unjust and unworthy of any man calling himself a Briton. While during the past ten years Germany has been steadily losing her soul, England has been regaining hers, and the monuments strewn along her path in the reform of abuses, the help of the poor and the partial restoration of justice and liberty to Ireland, are obvious to the dull-est eye and sense. The men in power, who have thus put their hands to the plow have no thought of turning backward, and if the demon of German militarism had not crossed their path, they would still be busily employed in ameliorating the old moss-grown wrongs that have been so long accumulating in their fair country. But the German military ogre will be slain, as St. George slew the dragon. After his head has been taken off, his tail may live for a while, but it will be powerless to injure anyone, and out of the present hell of battle the wrecks of broken hearts and the destruction of life and property will rise the dawn of a better day that will illuminate the world.

GENERAL COMMENT

The blood being shed by the allies in the war against Germany will, it is to be hoped, wash off the many black spots on their own escutcheons.

No matter how guilty England, France and Russia have been in their past dealings with other nations, they are now engaged in a war in the interests of right, justice and freedom and should have the support of all right-thinking people, for it is not only for themselves they are fighting, but to drive back the monster of German militarism as Sobieski drove back the hordes of Mohammedans from Europe.

But some will say: "Does not the blood of Poland, India, Ireland, the Jews, the expatriated Acadians, the French Huguenots and the South African burghers cry to heaven for vengeance? It does and "Vengeance is mine, and I will repay," saith the Lord. And England, France, Russia and Belgium are reaping the rewards of His wrath in the present war



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as well as Germany, and we think it is well that they should, so that it may teach them justice and humility and how to properly appreciate the rights of others. But we pray with uplifted hands that they may be successful, and we feel sure they will, as the Spirit of God has not departed from them, and they have not outraged God's mercy by their atrocities and inhumanities as Germany has done. While they may lose sight of just and legal international laws by endeavoring to starve out innocent non-combatants, it must be remembered that war is not a legal endeavor but an insatiate madness, putting swift victory above everything else and stopping at nothing to obtain it.

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