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THE
GREAT WAR

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WITH 10 MAPS AND ILLUSTRATIONS

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HUMPHREY MILFORD
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
BOMBAY MADRAS AND CALCUTTA

1920



India and Its Approaches

19 (8m) N14
N20 35

THE GREAT WAR

INTRODUCTORY

To College Students and School Boys

On Monday the 11th November, 1918, Germany surrendered and the greatest war of all time came to an end with the Victory of the Allies.

Does this mean that we are to take no more interest in the war or in the re-arrangement of the world which is now in progress? If it was an ordinary war we might say so, but then this has been no ordinary war, but a struggle between two great principles. It has affected the life of every one in the world. Its results will concern us and our children's children.

When the war was raging it was difficult for us to understand either what it was about or what was happening. Now we shall be able to learn at our leisure both why it arose, how it progressed, and why it was so necessary to defeat the Germans.

Many Indian soldiers fought in this war. We were not beside them, as we were either at college or school. We ought to be proud of the part that they took in the war and know how and where they fought and why our King-Emperor declared war on Germany.

The geography of the world is already quite different from what we have been learning at school. Four Empires have been defeated, and many countries will have new boundaries. In many places there will be great changes. If we are to understand these we ought to know about this war, and how it brought them about.

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Though we have not known it in India, sheltered as we have been by the British fleet and by our armies and those of the Allies, the war has been like a great earthquake shock. In Europe nothing will be as before; in India also it will have its consequences. We must try to understand what these will be.

Then this war has many lessons for us. We have seen how our King-Emperor kept his oath to Belgium, how Belgium resisted the enemy bravely, and how Serbia refused to yield.

On the other hand we have seen how Germany broke her oath, how cruel she was to the Belgians and Serbians, and how justice overtook her at the last.

But many of us also sometimes fail to keep our word. Sometimes we are unkind and cruel, and we must not think that it is only Germans who are thus. Some one has said that there is a little of the German in each of us. Sixty years ago the Germans were no worse than other people, but they allowed wrong ideas, deceit and lust, to take possession of the whole nation, with the result that they have brought more misery to the world than any other people who have ever lived.

The greatest events of history have taken place in our own time and before our eyes. We ought to understand them. If we want to read of honour, we have many examples; of bravery and courage, we have more; of inventions, this war has been full of them. But above all we should try and understand from this war the need for upholding what is right.

It is easy to say now that the Allies won because they were in the right. If they had lost, should we not say none the less that it was right for them to have fought? One great Englishman has said that rather than see Belgium left to destruction, he would have been prepared to see England blotted out altogether. *Serbia and Belgium both preferred death to betraying their allies. Would we have done the same?*

THE GREAT WAR

PART I

1. **GERMANY BEFORE THE WAR.**—Wars do not begin in one day, and if we want to learn why the Great War began—in which the people of nearly every country in the world were fighting—we must go back about fifty years and see what has happened.

In old times there were many small countries in what is now called Germany. Of these the greatest and most warlike was Prussia, whose capital is Berlin. Now Prussia, which was at first a very small country, became powerful by means of wars. In 1864 the Prussians suddenly attacked Denmark, a little country to the north of Germany. They won and kept a Danish Province. In this war the Austrians who live to the south gave them help. The Prussians and the Austrians then quarrelled, so there was another war in 1866. The Prussians again won, and in 1870 they had a war with France, which lies to the west of Germany. The French soldiers fought bravely, but their generals were not so clever as the German generals, so they were defeated and Paris was captured. The German terms were very cruel. France had to pay many crores of rupees and to give up two provinces to the Prussians. The Prussians never forgot this victory; the French never forgot this defeat.

The Prussians with the help of other German states had now won three wars, and one result was this that the King of Prussia was now made Emperor of Germany. Before, as I have said, there were many German states, some of which hated the others very much. Now there was one German Empire, and the King of Prussia was the Emperor. The Emperor's Chancellor or Vizier was called Bismarck.

The Germans were now very pleased with themselves. They had won three wars, and they thought that no country in the world was so great as Germany. In the beginning Germany was

a poor country, but the people were very industrious, and worked very hard, and their rulers made very good arrangements. Unfortunately they never forgot that their country had become great by means of success in war. In these wars they deceived their enemies and attacked them by surprise. So they thought that deceit was a good thing, and that it did not matter what the Germans did, as long as they won.

About thirty years ago a new Emperor came to the throne. His name was Wilhelm the Second. He was a very clever man. He loved Germany and wished it to be the first country in all the world, both by land and sea. He believed that God had made him Emperor and that whatever he did was right. He tried to do many things. Sometimes he wrote poetry, sometimes he painted, sometimes he preached and made speeches. No one knew what the Emperor would do next and so many people were anxious, as he was very powerful in Germany. He was always making his army bigger, and his navy bigger, so that people of other countries had to make their armies and navies bigger too. The English indeed, as they lived on an island, thought that a great army was not necessary, so they built more warships.

Though Germany was now great, the Germans thought that it should be greater. They looked at the map, and saw first that all their ships must pass England before they could reach America or other countries. If you look at a map of the world you will see this too. They were very angry at this, which was silly. When you go to school you have to pass your neighbour's house. This does not do you any harm, and you do not want to pull it down. But the Germans did not like to have to pass their neighbour's house, which is England. So they resolved to pull it down when they got a chance.

Then they looked at the map again, and saw that in America, in Asia, in Africa and in Australia the English had a great Empire, and that on the way all the great harbours like Gibraltar, Aden and Hongkong were in English hands. They said "This is wrong. We are better than the English. We must have these in our hands."

Then they saw that the French, whom they had defeated

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might is right. So now you see a little what the Germans believed; how, because they won three wars and afterwards prospered much, they thought they were the greatest people who ever lived, and should be masters of the world; how they wished all other countries to adopt their customs, because they were the best; and how they believed that might is right, and that a great country (and there was only one great country in the opinion of the Germans) was bound by no laws, either of God or man.

2. THE TWO ALLIANCES BEFORE THE WAR.—When a country is preparing for war, one of the most necessary things is to have friends in other countries. When they defeated the Austrians, the Germans thought, "It will be well to make them our friends, and so we shall each be strong against the Russians, who are to the east, and against the French, who live in the west." In 1883 they persuaded the Italians to join them, though the Italians are more like the French, and their language is like the French language. The French seeing their danger began to make friends with the Russians and made a treaty with them in 1896 that they would help each other. At this time the English were neither friends nor enemies of either party, as they thought, "England is an island and we have more ships of war than any other country." In 1900 however the Germans, who had now the biggest army in the world, began to build a great fleet of ships, and the English thought, "If the Germans are building a fleet, perhaps they will attack us some day. We must build more ships too and perhaps it will be well to make friends with France and Russia." So in 1904 they made an agreement with France, and in 1907 they made an agreement with Russia.

The English thought however that if all these great countries went to war, it would be a very wicked thing, so at the same time they tried to be friends with Germany also, and to keep Germany from going to war. They said to the Germans: "If you do not build so many ships, we shall not build so many, but if you build more we shall build two ships for every one you build, as we must protect ourselves." The Germans laughed and went on building ships, so the English did as they said, for they

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in 1870, had a great Empire too in Africa and Asia. This they envied and said, "We defeated the French. They should not have an Empire."

Again they looked at the map and saw that Russia is a big country too. It looked so big that they were frightened of Russia. And again they said, "We are much better than the Russians, who are savages." So they began to prepare for war. Now here they made one very great mistake. They talked so much about how they would defeat the English and the French and the Russians that these three countries became firm friends.

Then they made another mistake. They were so pleased with themselves, they thought Germany was so great, that they planned to conquer the whole world.

These are some of the plans they made. They would defeat France and seize the harbours of France and Belgium. Then England would be at their mercy. They would defeat Russia, and the lands to the east of Germany would be theirs. With the help of Austria they would hold the Balkan countries which lie to the south-east of Europe. By this and by holding Turkey, they would have a big railway from Berlin to Baghdad. From there they could get to India and China. Then they planned to seize Egypt, so that the English would not be able to go to India by sea, and to have a great Empire in Africa. They wished to be masters of the Pacific Ocean, and also obtain South America. Some day, too, they hoped that the United States would be filled with Germans.

They wrote that for Germany two things were possible. Either Germany should be master of the world or there should be no Germany.

They had another idea. They thought, "We are the greatest people in the world. Our civilization is the greatest. We must impose this on all other peoples and make them live in our way, and do as we want them to do. This is our sacred work in life."

Lastly they believed that the German state was the greatest thing in the world; that whatever it wished was right. They taught that power is everything, that no agreements, no promises matter, and in a word that Germany could do what she likes,

knew that if the Germans had the biggest army in the world and the biggest fleet, they would be masters of the world, as they hoped.

All this time the Germans were talking about "war" and the English were hoping for peace. They even said that they would allow the Germans to have a big Empire in Africa and Asia ; but it now seems that the Germans wanted war all the time.

And there are many proofs of this. They always made their army bigger and their fleet bigger. Twice they threatened to make war on France in the ten years before the Big War ; but the English said, "We shall help the French," so the Germans were afraid, and did not fight ; they thought, "It will be better later, when we are more ready." At another time they almost made war on Russia, but the Russians yielded, as they knew they were weaker than the Germans. The Germans and Austrians also kept stirring up trouble in the Balkan countries to the south, and making the people of these little countries hate each other more, especially the Serbians and the Bulgarians. And the reason of this was that the Germans hoped to be masters of Asia. These little countries were on the way between Europe and Asia, as you will see from the map, so the Germans did not want them to be friends with each other. They said, "If they unite they will be strong ; if they hate each other, they will be weak. When the time comes we shall conquer them."

Yet all the time the British Government strove for peace, as they knew that the war when it did come would be terrible, and they hoped that the Germans would see that peace was better than a war in which perhaps every country would take part. But the English hoped in vain.

3. HOW THE WAR CAME.—In German papers you will find these words, "Germany will strike when her hour is struck." And the meaning of this is that when the Germans are ready for war, and the other countries are not ready, the Germans will suddenly attack them.

Now in 1914 the German army was bigger than it had ever been before. So was the German fleet. They had built a great

canal, through which big ships could pass from the Baltic Sea to the North Sea. This is called the Kiel Canal. The coasts of Germany were now so strong that even the English fleet could not attack them. The German Government had made such arrangements that money, food, and munitions were all ready for war.

It was believed that neither Russia nor France was ready, and that both countries desired peace. The English fleet was strong, but their army was small, and if the Germans could defeat the French, they might then be able to defeat the English. As the English liked peace, it was hoped also that perhaps at the beginning of the war they would wait and see what happened.

About this time the heir to the throne of Austria was suddenly murdered. The Austrians said the Serbians had murdered their Prince. They never proved this. Now Serbia, as we have said already is on the way to the east, and the Germans and Austrians long wished to control this. The Serbians were the friends of Russia. If they were defeated, the Russians would be punished too. Now was the opportunity for war.

For four weeks the Austrians said nothing about war. In July in Europe many people take holidays, and the German Emperor himself went away, so no one had any fear. In England no one troubled about Serbia. It was far away, and very few people knew who the Serbians were.

Suddenly on the 23rd July, four weeks after the murder of their Prince, the Austrians sent a very harsh letter to the Serbians saying that it was the fault of the Serbians that he had been murdered and that, if they did not yield their country to the control of Austria in forty-eight hours, Austria would make war on them. As we have said above, they gave no proof that the Serbians knew anything about the murder, nor have they done so yet.

The friends of the Serbians advised them to yield, as they were a small country, and Austria a big one. They did so, except in this, that they did not wish to hand their country altogether over to the Austrians, and proposed that there should be an enquiry. Austria however wanted war with Serbia, so

it did not matter what the Serbians replied. At this time the other countries began to be frightened. They saw that if Austria attacked Serbia, Russia would need to support her little friend, and in the end all countries would be at war, and there would be very great slaughter and suffering.

The English from the beginning did what they could to prevent this. So did the French and Italians and Russians. But Germany would hear of no proposal for peace. When Austria saw that it was not a little war but a big war that was coming she was willing, it seems, to consider the matter. But Germany was resolved that there should be no talk about it, and before anyone knew, she had declared war on Russia, and the Great War had begun.

4. WHY ENGLAND MADE WAR ON GERMANY.—During these days the English had worked night and day to prevent war. It had begun between Austria and Serbia, and now the Germans were fighting Russia on the one side, and when they learned that the French would help the Russians they attacked the French on the other side. Now the English did not want to go to war on behalf of Serbia, about which they knew little. The French however were their friends and they thought, "The least we can do is to help them with our ships and prevent the Germans from attacking the French by sea." Many in England said, "War is an evil; it is better that we should keep at peace. Serbia is far away, so is Russia." And so they might have said for many days, but for what happened in Belgium, a little country between France and Germany, and almost opposite England.

Now for many hundreds of years, if the Germans wished to fight with the French, or if the French wished to fight with the Germans, they used to go by way of Belgium, and the people of Belgium were put to great trouble, as so many wars were fought in their country. Eighty years ago, the five great countries of Europe made an agreement that none of them would send their armies through Belgium. It was agreed too that Belgium should not make war on any other country, and that if any country attacked Belgium each of these five big countries—England, France, Germany, Austria, and Russia—would

send an army to protect Belgium. This pleased all parties—the Belgians were pleased because there was a treaty; they had five powerful friends, so now they would be safe. The Germans were pleased because they thought, "The French will not attack us through Belgium." The French were pleased because they thought, "Now the Germans will not come this way." And the English, who did not want any big country to be ruler of Belgium, because its harbours were good and it was safer for all to have no very strong power there, were pleased also.

It was in 1839 that the treaty was signed, and many times till the Big War came, England and France and Germany said to the Belgians, "We will respect the treaty."

The Belgians were very happy, and they believed that there could be no danger. All said that they would keep the treaty, and it would be wicked to do anything else. Suddenly on the 2nd August, 1914, the Germans ordered the Belgians to allow their armies to march through Belgium against the French. They said, "If you do not allow us, we shall make war on you." The Belgian King said, "You promised never to come through Belgium; we promised to allow no army to come through our country. If we allow you to come we shall deceive the French. We shall keep our word."

It was the bravest thing in all history. This little country Belgium, which is not bigger than many districts in India, was going to resist the great German Empire—and all because the King of Belgium and his ministers thought, "We must keep our word."

The King of Belgium then sent word to the King of England of what had happened. He said that he relied on England's friendship to save Belgium.

What were the English to do? There was only one thing possible. They had promised to protect Belgium, and they must keep their word. Next day they said to the Germans: "We have promised to protect Belgium. So have you. If you go through Belgium we shall make war upon you at once." The Germans sent no reply, and that same day England made war on Germany in accordance with her promise to Belgium.

The Germans were very angry and their Chief Minister said,

"Why are you going to war with us, all for a scrap of paper?" The "scrap of paper" was the treaty which Germany had signed as well as England. He also said that it was a matter of life and death for Germany to go through Belgium and attack the French before they were ready. The English Ambassador's reply was, "It is a matter of life and death to us to keep our word." And so we went to war. As a great Belgian said, "Germany broke her oath; England kept hers. That is the whole story."

5. WHY GERMANY BROKE THE TREATY WITH BELGIUM.—

All along the French frontier, between France and Germany, there are fortresses. And for forty years the French had been making them stronger and stronger for fear that the Germans would come and attack France again.

To the north-east of France lies Belgium, and here the French built no great fortresses, for they thought that the Germans would not break the treaty and that there was no need. Besides they perhaps feared that if they built fortresses there, the Germans would be angry, and say, "Why do you doubt our word?"

Then the Germans signed two more treaties, one as late as 1907, so the French felt secure, whilst the year before the war the German Vizier said that Germany would respect her agreement about Belgium.

Now the Germans knew that the way into France through Belgium was easy, and the straight way was difficult, so they decided to deceive both the Belgians and the French. For years they prepared to do this, and built many railways by which their troops could move quickly into Belgium; but they never confessed why they were building them. Indeed, the day before the Great War began, the German Minister in Belgium said that the Germans would keep the treaty.

What do the Germans themselves say afterwards?

One minister says, "We had to advance into France by the quickest and easiest way." Another says, "We knew that France was ready for invasion. We are now in a state of necessity, and necessity knows no law. We are committing a wrong, but afterwards we shall try to correct this." So you see the Germans themselves admit that they did wrong. They

admit that they broke their treaty so as to take the French unprepared. The Vizier said it was necessary.

It was not necessary. They could have kept their word and perhaps this would have been better for them, as the English might not have made war upon them so soon. Then in nearly every country people said, "The Germans have broken their oath," and all were sorry for poor little Belgium, which faced the whole German army so bravely. As happened in the Great War between the Kurus and the Pandavas, one side had a bad cause to begin with.

Now it is well to know about this treatment of Belgium, for though it happened at the very beginning it remained the main cause of the war. The English people were very angry, for three reasons. First they thought it unjust that a big country should crush a little country. So in their opinion the war was a war on behalf of justice. Then they thought as you think, that it is wrong to break one's word, so it was really a war on behalf of honour. Lastly, they saw that if Germany was allowed to do what it liked, there would be no security for any country. So it was England's duty to go to war, and England's interest too.

There is a picture of the German Emperor talking to the King of Belgium, and showing him the ruin of Belgium. The German Emperor says, "See, you have lost everything." The Belgian King replies, "I have saved my soul." So it is that Germany is dishonoured. Belgium and England are honoured. They kept their word. Now what would have happened if England had not kept her word? France might have been defeated, and the Germans might have been masters of Europe and Asia. So by keeping her word and going to war with Germany, England saved the whole world from slavery.

6. THE TWO SIDES.—At the beginning of the war there were two great countries on one side—Germany and Austria—and three on the other, England, France and Russia, and two little countries, Belgium and Serbia.

Now Germany had several advantages on her side.

(1) First the Germans had been preparing for war for many years and they chose their own time for war. They also began



Europe in 1914

treacherously by the attack on Belgium where the French were not expecting them.

(2) Then for many years they had been building railways and roads, not for carrying merchandise, but that they might be able to bring their soldiers quickly to France.

(3) Food, gunpowder, grain, stores—everything was ready, and when there is an army of fifty lakhs to feed, you will see that much is necessary, and that the side which knows beforehand when the war will begin has a great advantage.

(4) For many years too, the German Government had been teaching people what to believe and what to write and say, so they had no difficulty in making them believe what they wanted about other countries.

(5) If you look at the map of Germany and if you know how well her coast line is protected by forts and mines, you will see that by sea it is very difficult to attack Germany from the west.

(6) Germany and her ally Austria lived beside each other.

(7) Later when Turkey and Bulgaria, which are in the south-east of Europe, joined her, and Serbia was conquered, for thousands of miles Germany and her allies were all connected together. France, Russia and England were all separated from each other, and when new allies came it was sometimes hard either to get help from them or to help them.

For Germany it was easy, and to the Germans, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey were one country, and all did what the Germans wanted. When the Germans wished to attack the Russians they had not far to go, and when they wanted to attack the French they were near France. But the English had to go sometimes thousands of miles by sea, and so it was harder for them.

Again when the Austro-Germans decided to attack Serbia, they could bring their armies to its borders in forty-eight hours. It took the English one month to get their forces to Serbia's assistance, because they had to travel round by sea. In the same way, when the Austrians attacked Italy, in a few hours they could bring lakhs of troops by many railways to the Italian border, whereas we had to bring help to Italy by only one main railway line through the Mont-Cenis tunnel, or else

go all the way round by sea, a journey of many days.

(8) Lastly the Germans for many years had many spies in every country, and agents who were paid to stir up rebellions when the time came. They hoped by these means both to know what was happening in each country, and to prevent other countries from joining in the war against them, and in each country to have many friends of Germany. To procure these objects they spent much money. Above all they hoped to trouble the English whom they had long deceived.

Though they had many advantages, one thing greatly disturbed them. Unless they defeated the English or the Russians, the Germans were as it were imprisoned. And they most of all feared a war with the English at sea. They thought, however, "If we can defeat the French quickly and reach the sea coast, then we shall be opposite England, and can stop English ships from going up the Channel. Our fleet is smaller, but if we scatter mines about the seas, and use our submarines, and sink English ships secretly when we can, then one day we shall be equal to the English and shall destroy them. On land, when we control Serbia, and have a way to Baghdad through Turkey, it will not matter about the English fleet. We can then go to India by land." Such were the thoughts of the Germans.

The English had indeed a small army, but their ships were ready and this saved them and saved the world. For till the Germans defeated the English fleet they could never come to England or pass England with their ships of war. On the other hand the English had a great Empire, and much wealth. But nowhere were they ready for a Great War, as they liked peace better, and their Empire was greatly scattered.

Except for their ships, indeed, they were in great peril, as Russia, though a very big country, was not ready for war, and no one knew how the French would fight.

But the English had one ally about whom the Germans forgot. They were fighting for what was right, and the Germans spoiled their cause by beginning with a crime.

7. THE RACE WITH TIME IN 1914.—The object of the Germans was to crush France as soon as possible: and with this end in view they brought a portion of their army into

Belgium at once: another portion marched against the French fortresses: whilst a third was on its guard to the south, to prevent a French invasion.

The object of the French on the other hand was to delay the German invasion as far as possible till the French army was ready and the British had come across the sea. The Germans had the start of the French, and by now expected a speedy victory.

It was expected that the main German attack would come through Belgium. The French General Joffre, whilst his armies were preparing, thought the first thing to do was to secure the French fortresses, and meanwhile puzzle the Germans with an attack through the Vosges Mountains, which you will see on the map of the Western Front.

Some think that this was wise, others that it was foolish; but possibly each side was waiting to see what the other would do, and neither knew the other's plans.

Meanwhile the Germans were attacking in Belgium, and summoned the garrison of Liege to surrender. The Belgians refused to yield, and drove off the first invaders. In a few days the Germans had brought up a much bigger army and heavier guns. The Belgian Commander still refused to surrender, and when the Germans in the end entered the city, they found the brave General, Lemane was his name, lying unconscious at his post. Liege had fallen. The fortress was too weak to oppose the great German army for long: but the news of the bravery of the Belgians had gone through the world, and the Germans now knew that instead of an easy march through Belgium it would take an army to conquer and hold the country.

The vengeance they now took was terrible, and the districts round Liege were the first to suffer from their cruel foes.

On the 20th August the Germans entered Brussels, the capital of Belgium, with great pomp and show: and, more important still, another army was moving swiftly and secretly towards the great fortress of Namur, which it was believed by the French and Belgians could not be taken.

Whilst these things were going on, a British army was hurrying across the sea, and a French army was hastening towards Belgium.

On the 21st August, 1914, the British army, small in numbers, but the best trained in Europe, had taken its place in and round Mons, in Belgium, alongside the French army. It was only seventeen days since war had been declared, and for an army to be prepared and sent across the sea in that time was a marvellous achievement.

When the British soldiers came to France, with their merry songs, the French were delighted, and all along the way they strewed their path with flowers.

On the 23rd news came to the English General, Sir John French, that the fortress of Namur had fallen, that a German army, four times as numerous as his own, was about to attack him, and that the French were in full retreat.

There was nothing for it but to retreat at once. On pressed the Germans, in the pride of victory. But the little British army fought all the way and the Germans never succeeded in surrounding that heroic force. And to-day the proudest boast of a British soldier is this, "I was in the retreat from Mons."

8. THE FIRST BATTLE OF THE MARNE, 1914.—For ten days the French and the British retreated. Following them was an enemy greatly superior in numbers, who was striving to crush them. It was weary work; but ever they turned and fought with their pursuers.

Later on we shall learn how the retreat of the British and French was turned into a great victory.

Many deeds of heroism were performed. Perhaps one of the most pleasing stories is this. A company of weary and thirsty soldiers saw some water carts. They rushed to have a drink. A Doctor said, "This water is for the wounded." "You are right, Sir," said the soldiers; "we did not know that the water was for the wounded." They passed on without taking any water.

In parts of the battle men stayed by their guns till all were killed.

In Berlin, when the news came that the British and French had been defeated, that fortress after fortress had been taken, great was the joy.

In Belgium meanwhile most terrible things were happening. The town and university of Louvain were burned to the ground

by the victorious Germans, and in all the villages round there was nothing but death, death, death, and wickedness in its worst forms.

The French Government had left Paris; and hundreds of thousands of helpless citizens fled from the city. It seemed the end of all things.

The Germans were now twenty miles from the capital of France. For ten days the retreat had lasted.

The French had been retreating towards the line between Paris and the fortress of Verdun, which you will see on the map, and the English had been retreating towards Paris.

Now it is a great mistake to think that in war a retreat is always a defeat. Though war is very terrible it is in some ways like a great game. In wrestling often you give way a little to spring upon your opponent a little later, when he is not expecting you. So in this battle, which had lasted for many days, (a) the Germans gained an advantage when they surprised the French and English with a great army after the capture of Namur; b) the proper course for the French and the English, who were much weaker at the point attacked, was to retreat till such a time as they could engage the enemy on equal terms. As long as they did not allow themselves to be defeated they were not losing.

Meanwhile the French General was planning where he and his armies could make a stand and fight the Germans. He decided to do so on the banks of the river Marne, which you will see on the map of the Western Front.

Now the German General wished to capture Paris, but he saw that there was a great French army lying between Paris and Verdun, and that this should be defeated before he attacked the great fortress of Paris.

The French, I think, expected the Germans to go straight for Paris. The German General thought this would be foolish, and he suddenly turned south-east so as to divide the main French armies and defeat them. Then Paris would be his.

He may have been right in this idea, but he was ignorant of two things. He thought that the little British army had been defeated, and left it out of account; and there was another French army behind Paris, of which he knew little or nothing.

Now was the turn of the French General. The French army of which the Germans knew so little suddenly appeared. Part of the German army had to turn back to meet this. The British attacked on their flank. In the confusion, instead of dividing the French armies, the German armies themselves got divided, and a great gap was left between them. The French General Foch saw this at once and rushed his troops up to the gap. The Germans found themselves in a trap and were forced to retreat, if their armies were to be saved at all.

So now it was the turn of the Germans to retreat. They had failed to destroy the French armies, they had failed to defeat the British. Paris was saved.

It was one of the great moments of the war, and perhaps of human history. Before this the Germans had dreamed of a speedy victory. From the Marne they were driven back, and long years of war were in front of them during which they never reached their goal.

Even now it is hard to realize what happened. Before this battle the Germans seemed everywhere victorious. But the French on their side had not been studying the science of war in vain. They knew the value of an army in reserve, and of bringing it forward at the right time. The spirit of France was unbroken and indeed unconquerable. The British soldier in his retreat never thought for a moment that he had been beaten, and was waiting for the day when he could meet the enemy on favourable terms. At the Marne the day came, and the great result of the Marne was that the Germans were beaten back. The Germans had despised the British; they found that their little army could still fight. They thought the French could not resist them. From behind Paris a new host came. It was but a month from the beginning of the war. For the first time the main armies had confronted each other. And Prussia had lost the first round of the combat.

Though this battle was fought little more than a month after the beginning of the war, and though the war continued for over four years, it may be said none the less that it decided more than any other battle how the war would end. The French needed time. They had obtained it.

Why was it that much smaller French and British armies were able to defeat more powerful German armies? Many things brought about this result. First of all the Belgians had delayed the Germans. In the East, far away, the Russians had attacked Germany and had several times defeated the Austrians. So the Germans were not able to send all their armies against France. The English fought splendidly. The French had resolved to die rather than yield and to defend their country till the last. The generals showed wonderful skill, whilst the Germans had perhaps overreached themselves.

Even so it is hard to see why the Germans lost, as their forces were so much the stronger. And I think the real reason was that the French and the British were fighting for the right and the Germans were fighting against it, and so they lost.

9. YPRES AND LA BASSEE, 1914-1915.—Whilst these great things were happening in France, all over the world, by sea, land and air, there was the stir of war. But before we tell of this, it would be well to ask what happened in France after the battle of the river Marne.

The German army was now in full retreat, but on their way back was another river, the Aisne. It was narrow but deep, and on the banks of this they had prepared strongly fortified positions. They dug great trenches under the ground for their soldiers, and from these it seemed impossible to move them. In a few weeks' time indeed there were trenches extending for about five hundred miles across France. From these the Germans were unable to advance, and the Allies were unable to dislodge them. So all through the winter the two forces lived opposite each other under ground, each in trenches, for the Allies built trenches too. The mud and rain and mist and snow and frost were very disagreeable for the soldiers. Perhaps they never saw their enemy, but from their trenches each side kept firing night and day, and each hoped to wear out the other.

The German line now stretched across the north-east of France from the Aisne to the Swiss frontier, but there was still one great gap along the borders of Belgium, from which new German armies could pour forth, whilst for the French by this way there was hope of advancing into Belgium and going



behind the German armies and so surrounding them. The Germans had occupied most of Belgium, but they had not yet taken the fortress of Antwerp: and if this could hold out there was still hope of troubling the Germans from behind their lines in France.



Map of the Western Front, 1914. Chief Fortresses are shown by black dots.

The Germans had now lost hope of capturing Paris for the time, and instead of defeating the French armies they now

found themselves imprisoned in their trenches. But they said, "If we can seize the Channel Ports, Calais and Boulogne, we shall then be between the English army in France and its source of supplies, England, and prevent the English from crossing the English Channel. After this we shall be masters of Northern France, and Paris will again be at our mercy."

It was another race with time. The question was—Could the Germans reach Calais?

Shortly after the battle of the Marne the English General Sir John French saw the danger of another German advance through Belgium, directed this time against Calais. It seemed to him that the English army instead of fighting the Germans on the Aisne would be better employed in guarding the way to Calais and indeed to England. Quickly and with great secrecy the whole English army was moved once again to the borders of Belgium, and French troops took their place on the banks of the Aisne. So successful were they that Sir John thought it might be possible to advance through Belgium. But now tidings came that Antwerp had fallen, and the first task was to save the little Belgian army. The British made one last effort to save Antwerp, but the force which they sent was too small, and the strange thing is that the Belgian army escaped at all. It is one of the many mysteries of the war why the Germans did not take Antwerp before, and why they did not succeed in preventing the Belgians from escaping.

If the Marne showed the skill of French generals, the battles which took place now are to the eternal glory of the British army. Belgium was now almost entirely in German hands, but a little strip remained, with Ypres as its principal town. For hundreds of years it had been a famous city. Its Hall and Market Place were very beautiful. This part of Belgium is called Flanders and except just around Ypres is very flat and cut up by numerous canals. Two portions of the German army now tried to break through to the sea at La Basse and Ypres. Near the sea they were barred by two unexpected foes. The Belgians flooded the country and the British fleet suddenly appeared, and prevented them from using the coast road. Round Ypres all through the winter the British army held out. The

Germans had ten times as many heavy guns as the British. The Germans were at least five times as numerous as the British. Again and again they attacked, but they were always driven back. It was the same at La Bassee, and this place is memorable because here the Indian army, which had now come to Flanders, fought. Round Givenchy and Festubert Indian soldiers freely gave their lives for the Empire.

Though the season was wet and cold, and nothing could have been more unpleasant to soldiers from the East, many showed great bravery. At Festubert, near La Bassee, Naik Darwan Singh Negi of the 39th Garhwal Rifles from the village of Kafadtir in Garhwal, United Provinces, won the Victoria Cross for great gallantry on the night of the 23rd November. The Germans had occupied some Garhwali trenches. The Regiment drove them out. The Germans, who were but a few yards off, hurled bombs, and fired with their rifles. Naik Darwan Singh was wounded in two places in the head and also in the arm. Nevertheless he bravely led the way.

A few months later Rifleman Gobar Singh Negi, also of the 39th Garhwal Rifles, won the Victoria Cross. The Regiment was attacking at Neuve Chapelle, which is a few miles from La Bassee. They attacked the enemy with bomb and bayonet. All in the enemy's trench were either killed or made prisoners. Gobar Singh was the first to enter the trench. He lost his life in the attempt, but his name will last for ever.

It would take a volume to tell of all the brave deeds done in that winter: how a little British army with rifles kept back the German hosts with their heavy guns. Why the Germans did not force a way through is amazing, when we think how powerful they were both in guns and men. The British fought so bravely that the Germans did not know how few they were and how little ammunition they had.

In the spring the Germans made another great effort. For weeks they had been preparing, secretly and contrary to their pledged word, poison gas. And as they could not take Ypres by fair means, they planned to do so by treachery.

Suddenly and without warning, deadly fumes from the German trenches filled the air. Some French troops from Africa

were the first to suffer. For a time it seemed that Ypres would be taken, but some British troops from Canada, to their undying glory, held fast. On all sides men were dying as though smitten with some new and deadly plague. The British army again drove back the Germans, whose treachery availed them little. Of all the horrible things they have done in this war, this use of poison is perhaps the worst. Bullets may kill or wound but gas gives torture, perhaps for life.

The beautiful city of Ypres was laid in ruins, but it held out. The Germans never reached Calais; nor did they ever conquer all Belgium.

And in days to come when men ask what was the finest act of the war, the answer will be difficult, but perhaps it will be—the defence of Ypres in that long first winter. And in this the Indian army helped.

10. HOW THE GERMANS FOUGHT AT SEA.—In previous chapters we have read how the Germans were stopped at the Marne and Ypres. Now we must see how they succeeded at sea. Before the war, the Germans said: "Our fleet is smaller than the English, but all the British ships cannot keep together. We must try and divide them and attack when they do not expect us. Then, when their fleet is weakened, we shall fight."

It so happened, however, that a month before the war the King had collected nearly all the ships of war and the sailors for a review. When it was known that the Germans might make war at once the King did not allow either his ships to scatter or any of his sailors to go home, and so when war broke out the British fleet was ready for the Germans in the North Sea. The Germans had no hope now either of invading England or of dividing the English fleet.

Now perhaps the most wonderful thing in the war happened. Wherever German ships were they received orders by wireless telegraphy to hurry to the nearest harbour. Many were captured by the British, and in a few days there was scarcely a German ship to be found in any sea outside the Baltic.

As England is an island, every soldier, every horse, all food, clothing, guns, and munitions, had to be carried or transported by sea to where the fighting was on land. What the Germans

first wanted to do was to stop the English armies from going to France. They were not able to do so, and the English had won at sea from the beginning of the war without striking a blow, and from the first day till the last the German fleet was practically powerless.

Though they did not dare to face the British fleet, there were however many things which they could do to trouble the English, and, as on land, they at once began by treachery.

First of all they strewed the sea with "mines," a kind of apparatus filled with explosives and difficult to see in the sea. If a ship strikes one it will probably blow up and all may perish. Even before war was declared the Germans scattered these mines about the North Sea, without informing anyone, and whenever they have had the opportunity they have done so, with the result that many innocent lives have been lost.

Another weapon was the "Submarine." Now it is a mistake to think this a German invention. The English had many more submarines than the Germans, and very useful they have been to us in their proper work of seeing where the enemy's ships are, and fighting against his battleships. Through them our Admirals learned at the very beginning of the war where the German ships were, and many a secret journey did they make to German harbours, of which the world does not yet know. What the Germans discovered about the submarine was this, that it was an excellent weapon for destroying at sight unprotected merchant ships and their passengers and crews. The English did not use their submarines for this wicked work, because it is contrary to the code of honour of the true sailor to destroy innocent lives.

At first indeed the Germans themselves did not see how much damage they could do by their submarines if they disregarded all thoughts of law or mercy, and when they began a policy of murder on the seas, the English were much better prepared for them than at the beginning.

Against our warships indeed the submarines had some success, and in one day no less than three British ships were sunk. But in their task of weakening the British fleet to any extent they failed. Some day the full story will be told of how our sailors

foiled the German submarines, how night and day in the cold North Sea even our fishermen watched, and helped to save England and the Empire.

A third plan of destroying British commerce was by means of raiders.

All of you will remember the story of the *Emden*, how she first deceived the Japanese by pretending to be an English ship, how for six weeks she sailed here and there in the Eastern seas, capturing and sinking ships when she saw them.

At Madras she fired on the oil tanks, and these are perhaps the only shots of the Great War which any one has heard in India. At Penang the *Emden* sank a small French and a small Russian ship of war. In each case she was disguised as an English ship.

But like other German raiders the *Emden* could not last very long, and after about six weeks' adventure she was destroyed by an Australian ship, the *Sydney*, off the Cocos Islands in the Indian Ocean. The captain's life was saved, and he was treated with much honour. He had often deceived, but unlike other German commanders, he had murdered neither women nor children, so the English were quite pleased with him.

A fourth plan the Germans had, but like all the others it failed. In the first winter of the war they made, for example, a sudden attack on the undefended towns of Scarborough and Whitby in Yorkshire in England. They stayed a few minutes at each place, destroyed as many houses as they could, and killed a number of innocent people. Then they hurried back to Germany.

The next time they came they were caught and lost a big ship—the *Blucher*—and in the end they found that it was impossible to defeat the English in this way either.

There was a fifth way, and the only way in which great wars have ever been won, and that is by fighting. And here the Germans have been deficient at sea from the very first. They think that battles should not be fought, unless you are quite certain of success.

The English sailor believes that when you see an enemy you should attack him even if you are weaker than he is.

Two stories may illustrate the difference. In the first year of

the war a weak British naval force met a stronger German fleet near Coronel in Chile in South America. They at once gave battle, and two British ships were sunk.

Six weeks later a British fleet, which had been sent to avenge this loss, sighted the five German ships off the Falkland Islands. The Germans at once fled and four of them were sunk without their attempting to make a stand. The fifth was sunk later.

This victory was important, as now except for stray "Raiders" there were no German ships of war outside German waters. Perhaps the British were foolish to fight at Coronel, and perhaps the Germans were wise to run at the Falkland Islands, but I think the Germans lost all hopes of winning at sea by their policy from the first. Victory is to him who dares, and the mastery of the sea is not to be won by avoiding battle or by treachery.

Here in India it is hard to understand how our peace in this Great War has been obtained for us by the services of the British Navy. By its strength both England and India have been secured from invasion, and armies of many millions have been transported from all parts of the world. Indeed, it is not too much to say that but for the British Navy, Germany would long ago have won the war. Thanks to its help, not a foot of English soil was taken, not a foot of German possessions outside Germany remains. Armies daily came from England and America to France. It was the strength of the Navy that made this possible.

In the King-Emperor's words the Navy was "the sure shield of the nation and Empire," and for the skill and bravery of its seamen we should all give thanks.

II. GERMANY'S COLONIAL EMPIRE.—Its Rise. In the nineteenth century, the chief idea of Germany's statesman Bismarck was to found a great German State *in Europe*, and for many years he discouraged all ambition for an Empire *overseas*. After the victory over France in 1870, however, a new desire swept over Germany. "England and France have their Colonial Empires," they said, "why should not we?" Bismarck at last gave his consent to the new venture, and it was in South-West Africa in April, 1884, that the new Colonial Empire may be said to have had its rise. The British Government was very

favourable to the undertaking, though it had a prior claim to much of the new German territory. Mr. Gladstone, the British Prime Minister, so little did he understand Germany, publicly thanked God for the new German activities and looked forward to working with Germany "in the execution of the great purposes of Providence for the advantage of mankind."

The German object was to build up on African soil a new Germany, and create States as the English had done in Canada, Africa and Australia.

Once they began, the work proceeded with extraordinary rapidity. In South-West Africa, a fertile country, suitable for farmers and with abundant mineral wealth such as copper and diamonds, they soon had a territory half as large again as Germany.

In July 1884 Dr. Nachtigal hoisted the German Flag in Togoland, a prosperous tract of land with a large trade in oil, cocoa, rubber and cotton. Five days later he landed in the Cameroons at Duala, and thus in one week the Doctor had procured for Germany colonies which soon extended over 220,000 square miles. In the same year Dr. Carl Peters had laid with some skill, if not deceit, the foundations of German East Africa, which was the richest of all the German colonies, and about twice the size of Germany in Europe. There is much wealth there, great forests, gold, and excellent pasture. On developing this the Germans spent much money. They built model towns, great roads and railways, and they looked on it as a centre from which one day they could control Africa.

In 1885 they annexed much of New Guinea, though the Australians had the first claim, and subsequently they obtained Samoa and the Caroline and Marshall Islands in the Pacific.

In 1898, the Germans, having refused to allow Japan the Fortress of Port Arthur, suddenly seized Kiau-Chau in China. They now looked forward to the mastery of Africa, of the Pacific, and of China, whilst with the help of Turkey they would one day be masters of Asia.

In less than thirty-five years they had won an Empire almost five times as large as Germany. And this whole Empire they

lost in thirty-five months.

How Germany lost her Empire. Togoland.—Within three weeks after the outbreak of war, in 1914, the British and the French had won Togoland, a colony three times as large as Belgium. And so well have we managed it that in the first year after the outbreak of war, the British Administrator reported a surplus of revenue over expenditure of one lakh.

German South-West Africa, (which is almost as large as Germany and Austria combined), was conquered by our South African army in less than one year from the outbreak of war. Our General was Botha, who less than twenty years ago fought against England in the Boer War, but now is one of our firmest friends. England had kept faith with him, he declared, so he would keep faith with England.

The German Cameroons.—In the Cameroons, the British had a more difficult task. Their French allies were four hundred miles away and the country was infested with malaria. The Germans had a well-led and well-trained native army, plentifully supplied with guns. To show the difficulties of the country, a few hundred troops required over 7,000 carriers for transporting their supplies.

However, all obstacles were overcome. The British fleet helped. To the East was a Belgian force, whilst among other units was the 5th Light Infantry of the Indian Army. In seventeen months from the beginning of the war, the Cameroons had been completely conquered by the Allies.

German East Africa.—This was the most troublesome of all to conquer. The German force was strong, their preparations very thorough, and at the beginning the English were much weaker in every way. The task was a great one to conquer territory almost twice as large as Germany, with every difficulty as to water and climate and country for advance.

It took long, but it was done. England again found her honesty repaid, and in General Smuts, another South African General, who had also fought against her in the Boer War, she had a leader of surpassing ability. In his army troops from England and South Africa, the King's African Rifles, troops from India — Kashmiri, Punjabi, Sikh, Pathan, Baluchi, and

Gurkhas from Nepal—fought side by side. In three years East Africa was won, and with it disappeared the German Colonial Empire.

New Guinea and other possessions in the Pacific, much larger in area than the British Isles, had been occupied by Australians and New Zealanders ten weeks after the beginning of the war. Samoa had been captured by New Zealand for the King-Emperor in the first month, whilst in November, 1914, the Japanese had taken Kiau-Chau. Other German possessions in the Pacific shared a similar fate.

German plans frustrated.—In Mesopotamia the British and Indian armies have ended German designs on the Persian Gulf, and in Palestine have stopped their ambitions towards Egypt.

And all this has been possible with the help of the British fleet, and the loyal support of the Empire and its Allies.

Thus have perished the German dreams of Empire. In all history there is perhaps no instance of such a sudden collapse of a great overseas Empire. Nor are there many outside Germany to mourn its loss.

12. ENGLAND'S EFFORT.—We have tried to understand for what each side was fighting and what advantages the opposing forces had. Now we must see how the people of England and the Empire acted in the calamity which had so suddenly come upon them. War is terrible, but sometimes it brings out the good qualities of a nation.

Before the war in England there had been much party strife. Many were living at ease, and thinking of their own comfort and happiness. Many indeed were quietly doing their duty, and some were living lives of sacrifice, but to the German spies it seemed impossible for this peace-loving country to endure the rigours of a great war.

When the news of the invasion of Belgium came there was such a change in England as no one had ever seen before. All parties agreed to forget their differences and to think only of winning the war. The great land owners and their sons, wealthy merchants, college students, clerks, tradesmen, workmen in the towns, labourers from the villages, rushed to join the Army or Navy. In less than four months 2,000,000 had

come of their own accord. The colleges were empty and there was a great scarcity of teachers in the schools. Indeed so many came that the recruiting officers did not know what to do and they made rules to stop recruits from coming.

Those who could not fight gave their money, and no less than nine crores of rupees were subscribed for one fund alone.

There never was such an outpouring of treasure, freely given, and to this both rich and poor contributed. Women flocked to toil in the fields, to drive horses, to plough, to work in ship and factory, and so relieve men. Thousands went forth to the war as nurses, and many of these freely gave their lives.

Boys came forward to help watch the coasts, to work in the fields, to unload waggons, and many sacrificed their holidays so as to be of some service. Girls helped too in this way.

Old men came forward to act as special constables and so relieve policemen. Some helped to guard the railways. Old women sewed all day at garments for the Belgians or our soldiers.

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Young and old, rich and poor, men and women, all alike came forward to offer their lives, their labour, their money, their all to the King. It was the golden age of English history. The King-Emperor himself showed the way. He denied himself all luxuries. His eldest son, the Prince of Wales, joined the Army and his second son, Prince Albert, was in the Navy, whilst the Queen was a noble example to all the women of the Empire.

Without pomp and show the King went about quietly among his people, and what gave most pleasure of all was his visits to our soldiers and sailors. Nor did he forget his Indian soldiers.

Before war was declared there was fear that Banks would be closed, that railways would not run, that food could not be obtained. The Banks, after a few days' pause, restored confidence. The railway companies placed themselves at the service of the country. Government by a system of insurance secured that shipping should be carried on without loss. In a few days' time such were the excellent arrangements made that business went on almost "as usual."

Perhaps the most astonishing thing was the work of the railways. By one line alone, three hundred and fifty trains with

troops reached Southampton in 45 hours, without delay and without mistake. In thirteen days from the outbreak of war the British Expeditionary Force was in France, and no one knew anything about it till it was safely there.

Our ships put out to sea as in time of peace, taking all risks; and round our shores humble fishermen braved storms, regardless of the wickedness of the enemy. Even in India we hear of the British Navy, but we do not know of the men of the merchant service of England, of the fishermen who also gave all they had for their King.

There was indeed a danger. At the beginning, such was the confidence in the Fleet and victory, that some did not at once see that England itself—and not merely France and Belgium—was in peril, that England was Germany's real enemy. And though it was good that men should serve of their own accord, though it was grand to think that in 19 months about 5,000,000 in the Empire volunteered of their own accord to fight, it happened that often those who were most needed at home went to the battlefields, whilst those less valuable for work at home stayed in England.

As the war went on another thing believed by the Germans to be quite impossible happened. England, which alone in Europe had for years refused to make all its male subjects who were able to fight serve in the army, did so by consent of the people. The Germans by their cruel methods had taught us that only by having all our men and all our resources at the service of the State could we hope to crush the menace of Prussia, German Militarism.

In the early days of the war men rushed to arms in the spirit of the knights of old to the rescue of Belgium. As the months went on, it became more and more the effort of a whole people. And what was most remarkable of all was the silence, the dignity with which the people endured. Mothers lost their only sons or perhaps five sons. They willingly gave them and suffered in silence. When victory came there was little sign of rejoicing, when tidings came of defeat they but spurred the people to greater effort.

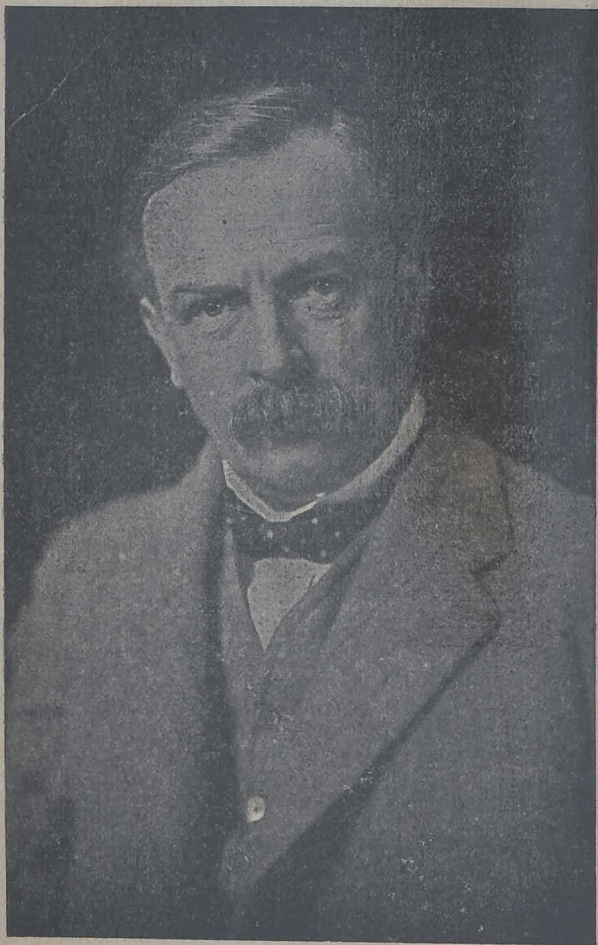
Possibly the fact that Lord Kitchener, once Commander-

in-Chief in India, was responsible for the management of the war in the beginning gave the people confidence. The new armies were called by his name. England was indeed fortunate in her great men. Her Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith, who advised the King to declare war on Germany was a man of exceptional ability, wisdom, and tact, and his utterances on the war have perhaps never been surpassed. For over two years he kept the people of England together and persuaded them to accept compulsory service and to submit to the most severe Government regulations. When his work was done he was succeeded by Mr. Lloyd George, the present Prime Minister, a Welshman. If Mr. Asquith is all wisdom, Mr. Lloyd George speaks like fire. His energy is wonderful, and he has the great gift of acting at once. He perhaps more than any living man roused the people of England and indeed the Allies to their peril. He knows when to act, and how to choose men, and is not afraid of taking risks. Perhaps his greatest service was in the matter of munitions. Eight months after the war had begun, he saw that if the Germans were to be beaten, the Allies must have more munitions, and at once he set about organising the whole country for the business of making shells and guns, till our output was 250 times as great as at the beginning of the war. In England whole cities grew up, simply because of the manufacture of munitions and guns, and among the workers were 700,000 women.

Counting from the beginning, England spent on the war ten thousand five hundred crores of rupees, and the daily expenditure was not far short of eight and a half crores. She lent two thousand two hundred and fifty crores to the Allies.

In the end our air service was fifty times as large as at the beginning of the war. Our Army grew tenfold, whilst our Navy was half as large again as before the war.

Greater however than this has been the spirit of the people. Though for many years they had been accustomed to freedom from Government control, they found their liberty restricted as it never had been before. Lights were not allowed at night. The Government settled the amount each man in England was to eat and drink of the most important commodities. Formerly



Mr. Lloyd George, the Prime Minister.

men could trade, travel, and speak much as they pleased. But now in England Government took the widest possible powers. In "Dora", the Defence of the Realm Act, a new mistress was found, whose commands the Englishman cheerfully obeyed, because he saw that the one thing which was above all necessary was to defeat the Germans. Here again the Germans erred. By their cruelty in Belgium and France they hoped to frighten other countries. Instead they opened people's eyes as to what German rule means. By attacks from the air and from the sea on undefended towns, they hoped to make England desirous of peace. The English were the more resolved to continue the war. By the murder of sailors and passengers and by sinking ships at sight, England was to be brought low. The people of England resolved to suffer any hardship, whether of scarcity of food or high prices, rather than that this should be, and instead of yielding took measures to grow their own supplies of food, and to defeat the enemy's evil designs at sea.

The Allies have helped, the Empire has helped, and India not least of all. But the mainstay of the resistance of the Allies has been England.

Three times before England had saved Europe from tyranny. She now more than any other country has saved the world. And it is to our glory that we in India have been by her side.

13. INDIA'S PART IN THE WAR.—Germany's Expectation. Before the war words like these were written in German books, "When Germany is engaged in a war with England there will be a revolution in India, and India will be among the allies of Germany." They spared no expense to bring about this result, and in India, Germany, and America, their agents were for years busily at work with the object of overthrowing the British Raj.

How India surprised the Germans.—At the beginning of the war the Viceroy, Lord Hardinge, sent a telegram informing the King-Emperor that in this war His Majesty could rely on the support of all India.

The Native States.—The rulers of the Indian Native States, numbering nearly 700 altogether, came forward to a man and placed *all the resources of their states of their own accord at the*

disposal of the King-Emperor. Many offered their personal service, and each State with Imperial Service Troops offered these.

To give even a list of all that they have done would require a volume. A few names may be given as examples of the spirit which animated all. The Nizam of Hyderabad at the outset gave 60 lakhs of rupees and all his horses. As was the case with other princes, His Exalted Highness has made many more contributions. The Maharaja of Mysore offered fifty lakhs. The Maharaja Scindia contributed a whole fleet of motor ambulances, and, together with the Begum of Bhopal, the Maharaja of Gwalior, and other chiefs, a hospital ship. From Bikanir came among other gifts an invaluable Camel Corps, which gained great fame. From Indore came horses and generous contributions to war funds. Little hill states in the Punjab and Baluchistan gave camels and drivers. Kashmir sent both money and troops. From Patiala in the North, from the states of Central India and Bombay, from the chiefs of the United Provinces, from Travancore in the South, there came the same story of devotion and readiness to serve. From beyond the Frontier came the same note of service. The Dalai Lama of Tibet offered both troops and prayers, whilst our faithful ally in Nepal sent army upon army of Gurkha soldiers and gave large sums of money. He also offered his own Nepalese troops.

These gifts were given at the beginning of the war, and since then, as has been said, they have increased with an ever-growing stream. Two stories have given great pleasure in England. The Maharaja of Rewa offered even his private jewels and asked, "What commands has His Majesty for me?" The veteran Sir Partab Singh of Jodhpur, who was over seventy, insisted on going to the battle-fields of France. "To die in battle is not to die," he declared, whilst he expressed the hope that it would be his lot to give his life for the King-Emperor.

The Indian People.—Whilst the loyal support of the Indian Princes was splendid, not less remarkable was the way in which the people of India supported the King-Emperor in the fight against Wrong. When we come to think of it, was there ever anything so wonderful in the history of the world as the moral

support given by all India with its three hundred millions of people, its numerous religions, languages, and races, in this war?

Here too it is difficult to say in a few words all that has been done, but perhaps the most pleasing of all has been the help given by the peasants and the poor, some of whom offered all their small savings.

The conduct of the Germans from the beginning of the war more and more opened men's eyes as to what a change of rule would mean. There was no desire in India for the murderers of Louvain.

The King-Emperor's message of thanks.—The King-Emperor's message of thanks to India deserves to be remembered. "Regard for treaty-faith and the pledged word of rulers and peoples is the common heritage of England and of India. Nothing has moved me more than the passionate devotion to my throne expressed both by my Indian subjects and the Princes of India, and their prodigal offers of their lives and their resources in the cause of the realm. Their one-voiced demand to be the foremost in the conflict has touched my heart, and has inspired to the highest issues the love and devotion which I well know have ever linked my Indian subjects and myself."

The German Emperor.—Though disappointed at first, the German Emperor did not relax his efforts to stir up trouble in India. By dragging Turkey into the war, he had great hopes of winning over the Mohammedans of India to his side. They saw however that Enver Bey and Talaat Bey, then supreme in Turkey, were but tools of Germany. The pledges of the British Government to respect their shrines seemed more reliable than the pretended friendship of those who violated sanctuaries in Belgium and France. And Mohammedan India, whose feelings were voiced by the Nizam, stood firm. The Germans then tried conspiracy, but the Punjab remained faithful and no province in India did more splendidly in the war.

Our King might well have said to the German Emperor: "The people of India have no wish to change my Raj for yours."

The Indian Army in Europe.—The first great event for India in the war was the sailing of the Indian expedition to France. The welcome which they received from the French people at

Marseilles in September 1914 they will never forget. How they fought in France will be told elsewhere. Here it is only necessary to say that in the two great battles of 1915—at Neuve Chapelle near La Basse, and at Loos, Indian troops were present and fought very bravely. When the Germans used poisonous gas near Ypres, in Belgium, Indian regiments held part of the line, and helped to defend Ypres from the Germans.

Two incidents may well be remembered. The King-Emperor himself went to France to see his Indian soldiers, and surprised all to whom he spoke by the knowledge he had of the deeds of bravery of each Indian regiment, and of where it had fought.

Lord Roberts of Kandahar, then over eighty years of age, who had once been Commander-in-Chief in India, felt that he must go over to France to see the Indian army. Many of the Indian soldiers remembered him and all worshipped him. He now saw his old friend Sir Partab Singh for the last time. The weather was wet and stormy, and the grand old soldier caught a chill, from which he never recovered.

He died amongst the Indian soldiers, whom he had served for over forty years, and no death could have been more fitting. None who have seen Lord Roberts will ever forget him. He was the father of the Indian army and died among his children.

By coming to France at a time when troops were greatly needed, the Indian army had helped much both England and France. But the climate was bad, and the distance from India great, and it was felt that in a warmer climate and nearer home they would be of even more value. So after about a year the Indian army returned from France, where they had won great fame, and they were thanked by the King-Emperor for all they had endured.

The Indian Army in the other fields of battle.—To us living in India it is wonderful to think in how many different battlefields the Indian soldiers have fought. And it makes us understand how this was really a "World War." Indian regiments were present at the capture of Kiau-Chau by the Japanese. They have helped in the defence of the Indian Frontier and of Aden. They shared in the sufferings of Gallipoli and Kut, and in the glories of the capture of Baghdad and Jerusalem. In the fight-

ing in the Cameroons in West Africa Indian units helped to conquer the colony, whilst for three years they fought in East Africa, side by side with their South African and English brothers till Germany's last colony was won.

Nor should we forget the Lascars, who come chiefly from Bombay, who have done good service at sea, nor the Indian Labour Corps, which has worked so well in France.

Who looks after the Indian Soldiers when abroad?—It is cheering to his friends to know that when abroad every effort is made to see to the welfare of the Indian soldier. His company officers have special concern as to his comfort. When ill he has the service of a Doctor. In England a Royal Pavilion at Brighton was fitted up for him, whilst the King-Emperor has never ceased to interest himself in his welfare. Whenever there is war there is suffering, but with the help of the Y.M.C.A., when he is in health, and of the Red Cross, when he is wounded, the sepoy's lot on service is not an unhappy one.

What India has done.—We have seen how grievously India has disappointed the Germans, how well she has repaid the trust of the King-Emperor, and in how many fields of battle Indian soldiers have fought bravely.

Nevertheless in one way India has been sheltered from the war, and whilst many have given much help, it took some time before we began to see that India was concerned in this war for her own interests and not merely because England was fighting. The fact remains that India's warriors have borne the chief share of India's contribution.

In the first years of the war life in India went on much as usual, and it was not till the 3rd year of the war, under Lord Chelmsford, that it was understood that special efforts were necessary. Then India supplied vast quantities of munitions and stores and articles for the Red Cross. The last two "War Loans" produced about 82 crores, and whereas before the war only 15,000 recruits joined the army every year, 300,000 Indian recruits were found in 1917. Before the war there were about 160,000 in the Indian army. On the 1st April, 1918, the number of Indian troops was about 490,000. In addition, much has been given to the Red Cross and other Funds. Yet though this is a

marked advance, and very displeasing to the Germans, we in India must not be too proud. On the 14th January 1918, Great Britain alone had sent 5,543,000 to the King's armed forces, and to three War Loans the British have given three thousand crores of rupees. Canada, with a population of only seven millions, spent over 400 crores on the war and sent over 5 lakhs of soldiers.

A quotation from Sir Stanely Maude, the "gentlest conqueror who ever entered Bagdad", may well end this chapter. "The traditions of these ancient British and Indian regiments have been in safe keeping in the hands of their present representatives. They have even added fresh lustre to their records." It is for us in India who have not been fighting to deserve a similar tribute, and for each to ask himself—"Have I done all I can to help in this great cause?"

14. THE RESPONSE OF THE DOMINIONS AND COLONIES.

—In the last chapter we read something of what India has done in this Great War. But Indians like to ask what other parts of the Empire have done, and to-day we shall see a little of how the Dominions and colonies helped.

The Germans' Hope.—In the opinion of the Germans, the British Empire was not strong enough to stand the shock of a great war. "South Africa," they said, "will revolt, Australia will separate, Canada will join the United States, India will join us. The British Government is weak, and there is no organization which can bring these scattered people together." We have seen how mistaken they were about India. They blundered equally about the rest of the Empire.

The Dominions' Response.—Even before war was declared the Governments of Canada, Newfoundland, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand placed themselves and all their resources at the disposal of the King in case it was necessary for him to go to war.

From the remotest corners of the world men hurried to offer their lives for their King and country. Nothing like it had ever been seen before, and in England men were touched more than words can say when they read of this wonderful devotion.

The King's Message.—The King, as always, best expressed the

feelings of his people : " I shall be strengthened in the discharge of the great responsibility which rests upon me by the confident belief that in this time of trial my Empire will stand united, calm, resolute, trusting in God."

Canada.—In Canada with its population of seven millions, the excitement when news came of the war was great. From the far west to the east, Britons hurriedly left their work and flocked in thousands to enlist. Two hundred men from one village said, " If the Canadian Government does not send us, we shall hire a ship at our own expense and sail for England to fight."

Gifts of every kind were offered. The Canadian Government sent 1,000,000 bags of flour, and every Province in Canada sent similar gifts. In the course of a few weeks one city, Montreal, raised sixty lakhs for the war fund, and eighteen towns between them gave two crores.

Canada has given over five lakhs of soldiers, and it is interesting to remember that at Ypres soldiers from Canada saved the French line, when the Germans used poisonous gas for the first time, and that the Canadians were relieved by troops from India. It would need a whole book to tell all Canada has done. She spent over 400 crores on war expenses. She has passed a law, of her own accord, that all fit to fight should serve the King in the war. In addition close on three hundred crores' worth of food and munitions were supplied by her in 1917 alone.

Canada has indeed done what she could. Not the least pleasing of Canada's gifts has been the devotion of the Red Indians, the original inhabitants of the country. From all the tribes offers of service poured in, with gifts of money, " towards defraying the enormous expenses of the war in which our great father the King is at present engaged."

Newfoundland.—Our oldest colony, with a population of only 250,000, about the same as that of Lucknow, sent about 10,000 men for service. Two thousand, most of them fishermen, joined the Navy, where they did exceedingly good work, whilst for one fund alone the islanders gave fifteen lakhs.

South Africa.—The Germans had great hopes of rebellion in South Africa, as less than twenty years ago England was at war with the Boers. When war with Germany was declared the

Boer Prime Minister, who had opposed us in the Boer war, declared, "England has kept faith with me, and I shall keep faith with England." A few did attempt a rising, lured on by promises of German aid. It was put down by the Boers themselves in a few days, and so far from South Africa being a source of weakness, German South-West Africa and East Africa were conquered for the King by Generals Botha and Smuts. Both of these fought against us little more than 17 years ago. Many Boer commanders came to London to enlist, and once German Africa was conquered there was a large force of South Africans in France.

The natives of Africa also have been splendidly loyal. The chiefs of a hundred tribes offered their men and their livestock. In the words of a Basuto chief, "Why should I, the King's servant, stand idle, when my King is fighting his enemies?"

Australia.—Nor was Australia, with its population of little more than four millions, behindhand. "Australia will be there" is an Australian proverb, and Australia has been "there" at the war.

She placed her Navy at the King's disposal, and it was an Australian ship, the *Sydney*, which sank the *Emden*, the German raider. Australia is almost the most distant from London of the King's Dominions, but it has sent three lakhs of splendid soldiers to fight. In Palestine, in Gallipoli, and in France they have fought, and those who read the papers saw almost every week some daring deed of the Australians. They knew no fear.

As from other parts of the Empire, gifts of all kinds were sent to England from Australia, chiefly food, and at the beginning of the war fifteen lakhs were sent by the Government in aid of Belgium. The city of Sydney alone sent three lakhs. Crores have been received since.

New Zealand.—With a population of little more than a million New Zealand has also sent over a lakh of soldiers. With the Australians they conquered the German possessions of Samoa and New Guinea, and side by side with them they have fought in Gallipoli, Palestine, and France. It was in Gallipoli however that they gained a name for bravery that will never die. And they have added a new name to the language, "Anzac," which stands for the Australian and New Zealand

Army Corps (A. N. Z. A. C.).

Like the Australians they have contributed much to the expenses of the war. They have given their Navy to the King, and the battleship *New Zealand* covered itself with glory in the North Sea. In no part of the Empire is there a more loyal people. Indeed it has been said that if men want to know what loyalty means they must go to New Zealand. In one town alone—Auckland—one thousand men volunteered to fight, the day after they heard that war was declared. The Maoris, the original inhabitants of New Zealand, also insisted on going to the war. "We are ever ready and willing to assist in any way against the King's enemies and to take our share of the Empire's burden."

Nothing indeed is more striking than the way in which the "Native races" all over the Empire, in Canada, Africa, or Australia, have supported the King-Emperor.

Other Colonies.—But even this is not all. From every corner of the Empire men came or sent what help they could. From Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Singapore, men and money came. The little island of Mauritius sent 2,000,000 lbs. of sugar. In Africa, from Gambia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, and the Gold Coast, from East Africa and Nyasaland, gifts came. Some African tribes sent 3,000 goats. Another little tribe gave 30 bullocks. The Mohammedans of Nigeria sent thousands of rupees to the Prince of Wales' Fund, and from far off British Guiana came 500,000 lbs. of rice for the Indian troops. The islands of the West Indies contributed twenty-two lakhs between them at the very beginning of the war, and from Jamaica came gifts of sugar, cigarettes and oranges. These are but samples of the gifts which were made at the beginning of the war. They have been greatly added to since.

The World's Wonder.—No part of the Dominions, however small or however distant, kept back. If England was grateful, the world was astonished at this wonderful sight. In the world's history there has never been anything like the British Empire, and, as we have said, never since the world began has anything been seen like the way in which, from all parts of the world, men rushed to give their lives in a distant war.

What is not less remarkable is the quick way in which each and all of these Dominions organized for a war for which most of them were quite unprepared, till from the Dominions alone almost ten lakhs of men came across the seas, some of them a distance of 16,000 miles, to win or die.

A Contrast with Germany.—In the United States alone there are about ten millions of Germans. At the beginning of the war it was quite possible for many of them to reach Germany. Scarcely any went or wanted to go.

What is the Secret of this Difference?—Why did men come from every corner of the Empire to give their lives to the King-Emperor? It was because they saw that in the British Empire they have security, they have liberty to live their lives in their own way. They saw that the British Empire stands for justice and liberty. They discovered that the Empire and the King-Emperor are worth dying for. They saw too that it was a war not merely for England or the Allies. Thus Canada fought for Canada and for the Empire, Australia for Australia and the Empire. As General Botha in South Africa expressed it, "This is South Africa's war." But they also saw that what we call civilization was really at stake, and that a victory of Germany would ruin all their hopes, that it would destroy everything they held dear. In the German treatment of Belgium they saw for all time what German rule means, and they resolved to fight it to the death.

India and the Dominion.—In this chapter we have tried to show a little of what the other parts of the Empire have done, just as in the last we gave examples of what India has done in this war. Between them there is no rivalry save that of "which can serve best" And it is our hope that as Indian soldiers and soldiers from other parts of the King-Emperor's Dominions have fought and died on the same battlefields, so more and more will Indians see that they too belong to a great Empire, whose foundations are always justice, and whose cornerstone is the King-Emperor.

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PART II

I. THE TALE OF SERBIA.—We must now go round some of the other battlefields of this World War, and, of these, not the least interesting has been the story of Serbia. It will be remembered that whilst England made war on Germany on behalf of Belgium, the Great War really began by Austria's declaring war on Serbia. It may seem that India has very little concern with Serbia, yet if we look once again at the map, and think of the German dream of an Empire from Berlin to Baghdad and beyond, we shall see first that the possession and control of Serbia were very necessary at the beginning if Germany's designs were to succeed and that it was not without cause that the war began over Serbia; secondly that the fortunes of Serbia affect India very closely, as Serbia is on the way from Germany to India by land.

The Country and its people.—Serbia, which lies to the south of the Danube is a very hilly country, with no access to the sea. Its people are Slavs, of the same race and religion as the Russians, whilst many other Serbs are under Austrian rule. Its population was about one-eleventh that of Austria. The people are for the most part peasants. They have had an unhappy but not an inglorious history, and there are no braver fighters in the Balkans. They are tall and handsome, and very passionate if provoked. On the other hand, they are very loyal to one another, and Serbian boys are very affectionate to their parents.

Their country is poor, partly because in former times the Turks were their masters and neglected them. In later years and before the war the Austrians and Germans were very anxious to prevent Serbia, which was now an independent country, from growing powerful. Serbia had no seaport. So many of her exports passed through Austria, who put every obstacle in the way, when she pleased. In the last two Balkan wars, the Serbians gained great victories, but the German and Austrian Powers prevented them from winning a seaport, and resolved to crush Serbia at the first opportunity.

What had the Serbians done that they should be so treated? The answer is that the Germans and Austrians feared that if the Serbians became powerful their designs in the Balkans would never be successful. So in peace time they often prevented the Serbians from exporting their goods to the north; they would not allow them a seaport; and resolved to make an end of Serbia when opportunity offered. This was provided by the murder of the Austrian Prince, but there is no proof that Serbia had anything to do with this.

As Serbia is situated on the highway from Austria to the East, she has been called the "Guardian of the Gate", and well has she earned the title.

Three Invasions of Serbia.—After the outbreak of the Great War, it was the hope of the Austrians to defeat the Serbians without much difficulty. They soon discovered, however, that it was harder than they imagined. The first invasion of Serbia in 1914 was easily checked, and the Austrians were forced to retreat with a loss of 40,000 men. They then announced that it was a only a "punitive expedition". In September they came back again, but again they failed though they occasionally bombarded Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, from the other side of the river Danube. In October they were back again with 300,000 men, and Serbia, shut off from the world, had neither sufficient men nor sufficient supplies to face these. She suffered too from having no good roads.

The Serbians retreated to the hills and with great exertions dragged guns up to the mountain tops. They collected all the stores and men possible.

King Peter's Appeal.—On the 3rd December, 1914, the aged and blind King of Serbia rose from a bed of sickness to address his troops. "Heroes," he said; "you have taken two oaths, one to me your King, and the other to your country. I am an old, broken man, on the edge of the grave, and I release you from your oath to me. From your oath to your country no one can release you. If you feel you cannot go on, go to your homes. I and my sons stay here."

The effect of the King's speech was wonderful. Weary as they were, none thought of going home. On the snow-covered

hills they faced the Austrian army, and such was the enthusiasm created by the example of the aged King that in three days the Austrians were utterly routed with a loss of eighty thousand men, and only the remnants of an army escaped to Austria. For the time Serbia was left in peace.

Bulgaria Declares War.—Serbia, however, was too important to be left alone. Belgrade was on the main line to Constantinople, and, as we have said, control of Serbia was essential if Germany was to succeed in her aims. In ten months' time she had her opportunity.

There had long been enmity between Bulgaria and Serbia, and in the second year of the war, Ferdinand, the crafty King of Bulgaria, came to the conclusion that Germany would win, and now was an opportunity for crushing Serbia.

Since their early victories over Austria, the Serbian army had been much weakened by disease. They were now faced with the danger of an attack by the Germans and Austrians from the north and west, and by the Bulgarians from the east. Their own idea was to attack the Bulgarians at once, as they suspected treachery, but the British Government counselled peace, as they believed the Bulgarians were friendly. Unfortunately the Serbians were right.

The German armies crossed the Danube, and now Bulgaria declared war on Serbia, when the King of Bulgaria saw that the German armies were in Serbia.

Greece Abandons Serbia.—The heroic little State was now in evil case. She had but two hopes. Greece was her ally, and had promised to help Serbia if Serbia was attacked by Bulgaria. The Greek Prime Minister Venezelos and indeed many of the Greek people would gladly have kept their oath, but Constantine, the King of Greece, and his friends favoured the Germans, and so did his wife, who was a sister of the German Emperor. So Greece refused to help.

Her second hope was in England and France. But it took a month to send troops from England to Serbia, and though some Allied troops had occupied Salonica a week before, they were too few in numbers to make much difference, and the roads from Salonica were very bad. Little Serbia had to stand alone.

The Crushing of Serbia.—From north, west, and east, Austrians, Germans and Bulgarians pressed. The Austro-Germans behaved with the greatest brutality, one object being to drive all the inhabitants from their homes so as to block the retreat of the Serbian armies along the narrow roads. The Serbians might have checked the German armies alone, or the Bulgarians alone, but to fight the Bulgarians, Austrians, and Germans together was too much for them. They fought, however, with the greatest desperation, at one pass alone holding up their adversaries for a week. But the odds were too many for them and barely half their armies succeeded in reaching the inhospitable hills of Albania or Montenegro.

The sufferings of the Serbians in the snow were terrible, and the spectacle of a whole population—old men, women, and children, fleeing before the Germans and their allies was very sad. The old King of Serbia journeyed with his armies in a rough hill-cart, undaunted as ever. "If I cannot share your tasks," he said, "I can share your sufferings."

When they reached Albania, their troubles were not over, as many hillmen did their best to rob them of the little they had brought with them. The only advantages they had were that their pursuers could not follow them now, and in Albania one chieftain took their part.

They had now reached the sea, and England, France and Italy could send them supplies and ships. Some were taken to England, others to France and Italy, some to Corsica and other islands in the Mediterranean. By a strange fate some were accommodated in a palace which once belonged to the German Emperor, in Corfu, an island in the Mediterranean. It was now occupied by the English, and the German Emperor was very angry that Serbians should be guests in his house.

King Peter's Faith.—The old King had not yet lost hope. "I live only to see Serbia free. I pray that God may let me live till the day of redemption of my people. On that day I am ready to die, if the Lord wills. I have struggled a great deal in my life, and am tired, bruised and broken from it: but I will see this triumph. I shall not die before the victory of my country."

It was a strange prophecy to make. Serbia had been utterly crushed and its armies and the whole civil population who could escape had been driven from the country.

England's Pledge.—The English and French had been too late to save Serbia, chiefly because Serbia was so distant and had no connection with the sea. They did their best now to succour the Serbians and to provide education for the Serbian boys. Many of these reached Oxford in England, and they were found very warm-hearted, lovable, and grateful, if sometimes difficult to control.

England now pledged herself not to make peace till Serbia was restored.

The British at Salonica.—Meanwhile a large British and French army was collected at Salonica. In England men often enquired what it was doing there. But the Government kept to its purpose. The Serbian army was gradually refitted. The Greek King Constantine, who had abandoned Serbia, was deposed, and Venezelos, the great Greek Prime Minister, did his best to redeem the honour of Greece. The Italians also sent troops.

The triumph of the Bulgarians was shortlived. When the hour had come, the Allies struck and routed the Bulgarians, who then repented of their friendship with Germany. The King of Bulgaria also lost his throne and Serbia lives again.

The Fulfilment of the Prophecy of King Peter.—Thus the prophecy of King Peter has been fulfilled before our eyes. The heroism of the people of Serbia has not gone unrewarded. They have kept faith, and even when he had lost a kingdom, the old King refused to yield to German, Austrian or Bulgar.

For the Allies the defeat of Bulgaria is welcome for many reasons, but not least of all because it opens up a new future for the little country, Serbia, the Guardian of the Gate, which has suffered so much and so undeservedly, and now reaps the reward of her loyalty.

2. THE TRAGEDY OF RUSSIA.—On the 1st August, 1914, Germany declared war on Russia, because Russia refused to abandon her little friend Serbia. It was thought in Germany that Russia was such a vast country and that the organization of

her armies was so bad that the German armies would be able first to crush the French, and leave the defeat of the Russian armies to the Austrians, till they themselves had finished with the French. Accordingly, with the results we all know, they invaded Belgium.

The Russians Invade East Prussia.—The Russians, however, were not so slow as had been expected, and when the Germans were ravaging Belgium, the Russians invaded Germany, and gained two great victories; and the people of East Prussia, as Eastern Germany is called, fled in terror to Berlin. The Germans had now to send some of their armies to the east to protect Germany itself.

Von Hindenburg.—Now in East Prussia there had been living for many years an old and retired General whose name was von Hindenburg. He had been doing nothing for years but studying the geography of the country, and he knew every inch of the ground. Many had laughed at him, but he kept on considering how he would defeat the Russians. Now was his opportunity, and he was given the command of the German armies in the east. The Russians came on flushed with victory, but von Hindenburg so arranged that their retreat was cut off, and they were forced to fight in marshy country at a place called Tannenberg, from which escape was impossible.

The Germans gained a great victory, and took over 80,000 prisoners. East Prussia was delivered, and von Hindenburg was considered the saviour of his country.

Nevertheless the Russians had helped us very considerably in the west, as the Germans had to send large armies against them and in consequence they had fewer troops to spare for France. So the Russians by risking the invasion of Prussia helped us to win the Battle of the Marne.

The Defeat of Austria.—Meanwhile the Austrians were expected to defeat the Russians farther south. But the Russian Generals were much quicker than those of Austria, and in little more than one month from the beginning of the war, they had defeated the Austrians four times, had won the great fortress of Lemberg, and sent the Austrians in full retreat towards Cracow.



Map of the Eastern Front.

Von Hindenburg, who had saved Eastern Prussia, now found that he could make no great headway against the Russians, and it was necessary for him to come to the assistance of Austria. He decided that the best help he could give was by capturing the great city of Warsaw, the capital of Russian Poland.

As you will see from the map, Poland can be attacked from all three sides and was difficult for the Russians to defend.

The German Attacks on Warsaw.—Twice the Germans attacked with all their forces available, but the Russians had a great General, the Grand Duke Nicholas. He was six feet seven inches in height and a grand soldier. He at once saw the German object, and resolved to defend Warsaw at all costs.

The Germans never thought of failing, and indeed a German Prince was at hand ready to be crowned King of Poland when Warsaw fell. Twice they tried, and twice they failed, and Poland was saved for the time.

Bravery of the Russian Soldiers.—The Russian soldiers fought grandly. Here are a few sentences from a letter of the mother of one of them to her son :—

“Your father was killed very far from us, and I send you now for the sacred duty of defending our dear country from the vile and dreadful enemy. Remember that you are the son of a hero. My heart is oppressed, and I weep when I ask you to be worthy of your father. We do not live for ever in this world. What is our life? A drop in the ocean of beautiful Russia. God save you, my dear, bright, beloved child. It is written everywhere that the foe is cruel and savage. Do not be led by blind vengeance. Do not raise your hand at a fallen foe, but be gracious to those whose fate it is to fall into your hands.”

This letter is worth studying as it illustrates the piety, the courage, the family affection, the love of country, the kindness, the chivalry, and the poetical gifts of the Russian people.

The Sufferings of Poland.—Throughout the winter both sides prepared for the renewal of the battle. In February the Germans made a third assault on Warsaw, and again they failed. The sufferings of Poland, which had thus been invaded

so often, surpassed even those of Belgium and Serbia, if that could be. "Fire has destroyed the towns and villages. All labour and industry have been swept away. The tradesman cannot sell his wares: there is none to buy. Little children stretching out their arms to their mothers for bread receive in answer only tears." Thus a Pole describes the miseries brought by the German armies.

The Capture of Przemyśl.—When spring came, the Russians began gloriously with the capture of the fortress of Przemyśl, with 120,000 Austrians. For some unexplained reasons the Austrians made no defence, and in the West it was hoped that the Russians would soon sweep down to the plains of Hungary. It was not to be.

The Germans Enter Warsaw.—Throughout the winter the Germans had been collecting secretly and silently such a force of men and guns as had never been seen in this world before. Swiftly and with all their strength they struck. Soon they had recovered Przemyśl and Lemberg, and all the gains of Russia were in their hands. Russia had men, but sufficient neither of guns nor of shells.

From north and south the Germans were pressing down on Poland. Their object was not merely to secure Poland, but to defeat the Russian armies. The Grand Duke Nicholas saw this, and ordered a retreat. Poland was left to the enemy, and with the greatest skill the Russian armies escaped. On the 5th of August, 1915, one year after the declaration of war, the German armies entered Warsaw. They found it an empty city, and all round was the smoke of burning towns and villages.

The German Emperor was highly delighted. "My destructive sword has crushed the Russians," he telegraphed. "The war is drawing to a close." He erred, but the fact remained that the Germans had entered Warsaw. Yet though they had gained the victories and the glory, in fairness it should be said that the Austrians, though often badly led, had often fought bravely.

The German Failure to Destroy the Russian Armies.—Though the Germans had taken fortress after fortress, they never were able to destroy the Russian armies. The Tsar

himself now took command of the Russian forces. He was the father of his people and this was thought to show to all the world that Russia would never yield. By September the German advance was held up. They had failed to secure the river Dvina, and the conquest of Russia was as far off as ever.

Russian Victories.—Next year Russia came to life again. Her armies again reached the Carpathians. In three weeks they had conquered a whole province of Austria. Roumania, encouraged by the Russian successes, declared war on Austria, and once again the end of the war seemed in sight.

The Canker at the Heart of Russia.—But whilst the Russian armies were showing the greatest skill, agents of Germany were slowly but surely undermining the whole foundations of Russia. The system of Government was undoubtedly a bad one, and the officials were mostly of German origin. Prices rose rapidly, the railway system was poor, and in many towns there was absolute starvation, though there was grain in plenty. In the capital itself, treason was at work. The Allies were steadily supplying Russia with guns and shells, and England must have lent her hundreds of crores.

The Russian Revolution.—In March 1917 matters came to a head. Riots broke out in Petrograd. The army refused to obey orders. The Tsar was requested to abdicate, which he did at once. He was a pious and kindly man, but not strong enough to control the forces which had so suddenly gained power.

Rejoicings in England and America.—There was at first much pleasure in England and America at the changes in Russia. The Tsar's Government had never been popular, and many had regretted that the wickedness of Germany had forced us into alliance with it.

Anarchy in Russia.—It was soon found, however, that the change had brought no benefit either to Russia or to the Allied cause. There was no Government now in Russia at all. Law disappeared. Order was to be found nowhere. The Russian Empire collapsed like a pack of cards. In a few months it had been divided into five or six independent countries, and every village seemed to have a *raj* of its own. In the army, ranks were abolished, a jemadar thought he was the equal of a general.

Boys refused to obey their parents or to go to school. Property was abolished. That is, no one had anything which he could call his own.

Leader succeeded leader, but no one took the slightest notice of any one. Starvation, prevalent before, now became universal. Robbery and murder were rampant on every side. For a while the army fought, but there was no one to lead them now. Power had now come into the hands of people called Bolsheviks. They abandoned the Allies, and made peace with Germany. They added to their crimes by the murder of the helpless Tsar.

Germany's Guilt.—Meanwhile Germany had not been idle. There is little doubt that she had been behind the whole business. Her task now was to set the Russians by the ears and to encourage anarchy, and this she did with extraordinary skill. Nor was it a difficult matter. The Russian people were weary of the war. These she deceived with fair promises and talk about the brotherhood of men. Her agents did the rest.

At Brestlitovsk a treaty of peace was signed, and since then Germany has been true to herself. Instead of trying to build up Russia, she has tried to destroy it. But perhaps she will live to regret it. The Allies saw from her treatment of Russia that there could be no peace with Germany till Germany was crushed, and now they have entered on the strange task of saving Russia from itself and from Germany, and of restoring it.

The Consequence to the Allies.—The defection of Russia was a serious blow to the Allies, but what they lost in Russia they gained and more than gained in America.

Conclusion.—And though now the Russians are in evil case, and their Governments have been false to us, let us not forget their early services to us, and the bravery of the Russian soldier. And though the Tsar is no more, as far as is known he was loyal throughout to the Allied cause. With him perished the whole fabric of Russian Government, and even those who most welcomed reform in Russia have now learned that it is easier to destroy than to build.

3. THE WAR WITH TURKEY (1).—During the greater part of the nineteenth century, the chief aim of the British Government was to secure the maintenance of the Turkish

Empire. In 1854, she had gone to war with Russia on its behalf, and in 1878 she was prepared to go to war again for the same cause. So for many years England was the chief friend and adviser at Constantinople.

German Advances.—After Wilhelm came to the throne of Germany, and had had time to work out his world-designs, he saw that if Germany was to be Mistress of the East, the first thing was to secure the friendship of Turkey.

In 1898, he came on a state visit to Constantinople, and soon secured important concessions for Germany both in Syria and in Mesopotamia, in connection with his Railway schemes. He announced himself as the Protector of Islam, though in his own colony of East Africa his agents did their best to prevent its spread.

The English were always urging reforms on the Sultan, and at the time the world was shocked to hear of the Armenian massacres. The German Emperor gave the Sultan to understand that he could put his subjects to death just as he liked, Germany had no objections.

The Revolution in Turkey.—In 1908, there was a revolution in Turkey, a Parliament was established and a Committee of Union and Progress set up with a new Sultan as nominal ruler.

The Germans were at first alarmed, as they had found the old Sultan friendly to them; but they soon found that the new rulers were as easy to deal with as the old. Prominent among them was Enver Bey, whom the Emperor invited to Berlin. The Germans now set about training the Turkish Army, and every year German power greatly increased. The new reforms had not made the lot of the Turks any easier. Instead of one tyrant the subject people had now a hundred.

Misfortunes now crowded on Turkey. In three years she fought three wars, and suffered much, without any assistance from the Germans on the field of battle. It was not yet Germany's hour. The Turks had exchanged old lamps for new: they had been dazzled by Germany's proffered friendship: they looked to Germany rather than to England, and so far the results had been poor.

The Outbreak of the Great War.—When the Great War

broke out in 1914, it was England's desire to keep Turkey neutral. She said that Turkey had no interest in the war.

The Sultan was in favour of peace, so was the Heir Apparent, and the Grand Vizier ; but real power in Constantinople was in the hands of Germany, and she was determined that Turkey should declare war on England.

The Escape of the Goeben and the Breslau.—The week that England declared war on Germany two German battleships were in the Mediterranean, off the coast of Italy. The British Navy was much stronger, but under cover of night the German ships escaped towards the Dardanelles. There was a treaty by which ships of war were not to sail up the Dardanelles, and perhaps relying on this the English had not guarded that corner. The German ships regardless of the treaty boldly sailed up the Straits, and anchored off Constantinople. From this time they were in a position to overawe the city.

Arrival of Money, Guns and Men from Germany.—Meanwhile crores of rupees and thousands of German workmen were arriving in Constantinople. Guns were supplied in large quantities, and a German General seemed in virtual command of the Turkish Armies.

The Turkish Navy had hitherto been trained by a British admiral. He was asked to retire. Many breaches of neutrality occurred, but friendship with England was still professed.

The German Ambassador.—Whilst the English Ambassador was working for peace, the German Ambassador was perfecting his plans. In Enver Bey from the first, and afterwards in Talaat Bey, he had active allies, and constant supplies of German money came. The English Ambassador was a quiet English gentleman, who had really no chance against his German colleague, unless he adopted German methods.

The Outbreak of War.—From August indeed Turkey had really, though not in name, been in a state of war with the Allies, and Constantinople was practically a German base, but the English Ambassador still talked peace with the Grand Vizier.

By the end of October, the Germans could wait no longer. Everything was ready. The Turkish fleet under German Officers attacked Odessa ; attacks were made on Egypt by

Turkish bands, and on the 1st November, 1914, the British Ambassador left Constantinople.

It may be asked why they should have gone to war, when on the one hand the Sultan and the Grand Vizier were opposed to war, and the majority of the people of Turkey were friendly to England, and on the other hand England had no quarrel with Turkey. The answer lies in this. The Germans had long secured Constantinople, Enver Bey and Talaat Bey were in their hands. In their own books they wrote that through Turkey they would obtain the Mastery of the East. Enver Bey and Talaat Bey they encouraged with dreams of a mighty Turkish Empire. The Sultan was powerless, as power was in other hands.

The future alone would tell which was right—the English who advised peace, or the Germans who counselled war. In India from the first the friends of Turkey had no doubt that peace was the true policy.

But when all is said and done, from the day that the rulers of Constantinople allowed the Germans to have control there, they had no choice in the matter.

4. THE WAR WITH TURKEY (2).—The Campaign in Mesopotamia. Turkey had now been drawn into a quarrel not her own. For Germany the advantages were many. First the English and Russians would be bound to withdraw large forces from Europe. Secondly, with the help of Turkey, Egypt and the Canal might be secured for Germany, and a blow struck at the centre of English communication with the East. By conquering Russian territory in the Caucasus, Germany would have a secure base for further operations in the East. From this and Mesopotamia, Persia and the whole Middle East would be theirs, and the entry of Turkey would be a signal for a Mohammadan rising all through the East on the side of Germany.

The advantages to Germany were clear. For Turkey, they were more doubtful. If Germany lost, Turkey lost also. If Germany won, the chances were that Germany would keep the spoils, nor did her writers make any concealment of this.

The War in the Caucasus.—Enver Bey's first hopes were in the Caucasus, but at the very beginning of the war, the Russians gained great victories at Serakamish and Ardahan,

which secured them their territory. In 1916, the Russians captured Erzerum and Trebizond, and Turkish Armenia was at their mercy.

The Russian Revolution and all that followed made things brighter for the Turks in that quarter, for little was now to be feared from Russia, but the Revolution came too late for Turkey. The flower of her armies had perished, and she had lost her fairest provinces.

The War in Mesopotamia.—The First Phase. Within eighteen days from the outbreak of the war with Turkey, the Indian army had occupied Basra, and secured the Persian Gulf. The Germans were not prepared for such swift action.

Now it was not possible to stop at Basra, for the Turks could come down the Tigris or Euphrates from Baghdad, and threaten Basra from behind. The next point to secure was Kurna, fifty miles up the river, where the Turks surrendered unconditionally to our troops, who had made their way north of the city.

Four months later in April, 1915, the Turks made a great attack at Shaiba to the south-west of Basra, with the object of winning back the port. They were defeated with heavy loss, and our armies had now secured the whole Delta, with Ahwaz to the north-east, which was important, as a pipe line from the oil fields ran through the place.

There was still no rest for the Indian army. In June, a still further advance was made after a little fight with the Arabs, who at this time gave trouble to both sides and could be relied on by neither. Our object this time was a place 75 miles from Kurna, Amara by name, from which ran a road to Ahwaz which we desired to keep in our hands.

The weather was very hot, and the changeable habits of the river made campaigning very difficult. There were neither good roads nor railways, and though the Turk was always beaten, he could always bring fresh troops down the river.

If you look at a map, and it is no use reading this without following the map, you will see two very important places. One is Kut-el-Amara, and the other is Nasiriyah. Between these two places there is a channel between the Tigris and the Euphrates, and the Turks as long as they held both could send troops from

the Tigris at "Kut," as it is now called, or from Nasiriyah, and once again threaten Basra. Our General resolved to secure both places. In July we had Nasiriyah. In September we won a great victory at Kut after weeks of terrible marching in the sun.

We were now three hundred miles from the sea, a little army not more than fifteen thousand strong. We had won victory on victory, and had gained a whole province against superior forces. The rivers, the marshes, the heat, the uncertain character of the population, all had to be contended with, and supplies had to be brought all the way from India, and illness was frequent.

The First Advance on Baghdad.—From Kut by river it is about 200 miles to Baghdad, and every mile of advance meant increasing difficulties for the little force. But when an army has never known defeat, it is difficult for it to know when to stop, and much of English history is a story of how men achieved what seemed impossible.

Looking at the map it does not seem very far from Kut to Baghdad, and when an army has advanced 300 miles, the remaining two hundred do not seem to be very difficult.

Prudence said, "Better rest at Kut." The spirit of daring said, "Why stop at Kut, when perhaps we can win Baghdad?" The General Commanding was hopeful of still more victories, and when the British Government in London learned this, they, as well as the Indian Government, sanctioned the further advance to Baghdad. General Townshend, who had won great glory in the battles hitherto, wanted more troops, but they did not arrive in time, so he with his army of fifteen thousand men set out from Kut to conquer Baghdad, if possible.

The Battle of Ctesiphon.—At first all went well. We routed the Turks at Azizie, half way to the capital, and again at Ctesiphon, thirty miles from Baghdad, with a loss of about twelve thousand men. But by this time our weary little army had only ten thousand men in action, and no means of reinforcement. The Turks had perhaps sixty thousand men, and it was calculated that without much trouble they could have a quarter of a million men at Baghdad.

There was nothing for it but to retreat, and by great exertions our little army got safely back to Kut, too weary to go any



Map of Mesopotamia and the Caucasus.

further. They were now surrounded by a Turkish army.

The Siege of Kut.—All through the winter General Townshend and his little force, consisting mainly of Indian troops, held out against vastly superior forces, waiting for relief. The Turks were now very strongly entrenched, and we had at the time neither the troops, the guns, nor the transport necessary to carry their positions. To add to the troubles the Tigris was in full flood, and the relieving armies had sometimes to avoid drowning instead of advancing as they hoped.

In April, 1916, the end came. The garrison of Kut surrendered with eight thousand men, 6,000 Indians and 2,000 British troops, who with their heroic General Townshend went into captivity.

It was the one reverse of the campaign. Of course, had all been known at the time that is known now, the attempt on Baghdad would never have been made till we had a larger army.

The New Policy.—The defenders of Kut had not fought, however, in vain. They had dared much and endured much, and others were to reap where they had sown.

It was now seen that a much bigger army was necessary, and that railways must be built at once, as there was no trusting to the Tigris and its floods. Transport and medical arrangements were entirely re-organized.

The Recapture of Kut.—The Germans, of course, were highly delighted at the turn events had taken, but their satisfaction was short-lived. The next seven months were spent quietly in making preparations for a new campaign. This time there would be no mistake. The first task was to recapture Kut, and this was no easy task, as the Turks were very strongly entrenched, and defended their entrenchments very bravely. But our men were even more resolute than they. In February 1917, Kut was won, and of all the exploits performed not the least notable was crossing the Tigris in flood, in face of strong opposition.

The Capture of Baghdad.—Defeated at Kut, the Turks retired rapidly on Baghdad, with the Indian Expeditionary Force in pursuit. At the river Diala perhaps in particular they made a stand, and five times our troops made an attempt to

bridge the little stream about 8 miles from Baghdad in the face of the strong enemy fire. Party after party was shot down, but they persevered, and on the 11th of March Baghdad was entered. An immense quantity of booty remained, as our advance was very rapid. The inhabitants gave a warm welcome to the victorious army.

The Importance of Baghdad.—The fall of Baghdad was a great event in the history of the war. It was one of the chief cities of the Turkish Empire and is of world-fame. More important even than the capture of Baghdad was the fact that we had defeated utterly the Turkish armies in Mesopotamia.

After this, victory on victory followed, and our Generals seemed able to capture whatever places they chose. Of these not the least important were Samarra and Hit, whilst to the far north they prepared methodically for an advance on Mosul.

General Maude.—Whilst his task was easier than that of his predecessors, much of the credit for the wonderful victories in Mesopotamia was due to the genius of General Maude, who seemed to know exactly when, where, and how to strike. It is sad that he did not live to celebrate his triumph.

General Maude himself gives much of the credit to his troops. All ranks, he wrote, by their heroism, endurance and devotion to duty, almost daily showed their superiority over their opponents. Amongst other things, he said that the crossing of the Tigris and the Diala are examples of all that is best in the British and Indian soldier.

Thus one consequence to Turkey of trusting Germany was the loss of Baghdad and Mesopotamia. Her defeat here was of the utmost consequence to India, for if the Indian armies had not fought in Mesopotamia, it is probable that Baghdad would have been the base for a German-Turkish attack on India. We shall now see how the Turks fared in the West.

5. THE WAR WITH TURKEY (3).—Egypt. One main object of the Germans was to drive the English out of Egypt, which they hoped to do both by a rising in Egypt, and by an invasion.

The peoples of Egypt and the Sudan showed no disposition to help the Germans. Their country was prosperous beyond

living memory, and the presence¹ of British and Indian troops on their way from the East increased both their wealth and their security.

In December, 1914, Egypt was proclaimed a British Protectorate, and Prince Hussain was chosen to be Sultan of Egypt.

By February the Turks made their first attack on the Suez Canal. It was a difficult journey, as in the desert it was impossible to obtain water. About 12,000 men made an attempt near the Bitter Lakes. They had brought bridges with them across the desert, and a large number of rafts, but only a few succeeded in crossing the canal, and these were soon caught. Indian troops did their share in defeating them. It is difficult now to see what object the Turks had in coming with so few troops. Perhaps it was in order to learn how the canal could be attacked. Whatever the cause, there was no danger to Egypt then.

Gallipoli.—Meanwhile in London, men were considering how they could best defeat the Turks as quickly as possible. It was believed that if Constantinople could be captured, the Turks would surrender at once, and information had reached England that many in Turkey would be thankful if we entered the city.

Russia was fighting Germany, Austria and Turkey. If we sent an expedition against Constantinople, she would be greatly relieved. If the Dardanelles were once opened, wheat would come from Russia through the Black Sea. The Balkan States, Greece, Roumania and Bulgaria, would have no temptation to join Germany, and the end of the war would be brought near.

The advantages of the scheme were clear, but our armies were still small and Lord Kitchener refused to allow troops to be spared as the position in France was serious.

The Navy's Effort.—The head of the English Navy thought that if no troops could be spared, the Navy might make the attempt, and as we had far more ships than the Germans, he thought a few could be sent to the Dardanelles without serious loss.

The objections to this were that the Dardanelles are one of the narrowest and most difficult straits in the world; that the coasts on each side were most strongly fortified, and by mines it would be most easy to defend them.

The difficulties in the way seemed to make it all the more attractive, and it was resolved to try.

For a few weeks all went well, and our ships went a considerable distance up the Straits. On the 18th of March, we lost three battle-ships, and it was then decided that without an army it was useless to advance further. Lord Kitchener now allowed an army to be sent.

The Landing at Gallipoli.—Now of all the places from which Constantinople could be attacked Gallipoli was perhaps the most hopeless. It consists of ridge upon ridge of rocks and hills, with little or no vegetation, and no good roads, whilst the coasts were strongly fortified as we have said. It contained neither food nor water, and indeed most of the water for the army had to be brought from Egypt, hundreds of miles away.

One of the most remarkable things in the history of the war has been the landing at Gallipoli, and no one in Turkey or Germany believed that it was possible in the face of so many obstacles. There were no harbours; all had to be landed in boats in the teeth of the enemy's fire and when they had reached the shore there were often high cliffs to be surmounted.

To the world's astonishment it was done, and they wondered still more how we could advance or make any headway at all in the Peninsula.

Our chief struggle in the first few months was to secure the peak of Achi Baba, the possession of which was necessary for our hold on the Peninsula, and many a weary fight took place. It was seen now that a much larger army would be necessary and in August a new force was landed at Sulva Bay, much to the surprise of the Turks. It was hoped that now, with a supreme effort, the Peninsula would be ours, and indeed, such are the fortunes of war, it might have been. But Nature proved too strong.

It was now seen in England that the time had come to consider whether a new policy was necessary. Accordingly the British Government sent Sir Charles Munro, our present Commander-in-Chief in India, to Gallipoli, to take command and to report. With great courage he reported that the troops should at once be withdrawn from Gallipoli, as there was

nothing to be gained from their continuance on an exposed Peninsula, from which neither advance nor retreat was possible.

The Evacuation of Gallipoli.—His advice was at once approved, and he took immediate steps to carry it out. Now if it was a great feat to land, to withdraw an army in the teeth of superior fire and by sea was equally difficult, and by many thought quite impossible. It was done, and in such a way that the Turks never knew that we were going away.

Summary.—Our seven months at Gallipoli had cost us dear. Yet the story of heroism displayed will endure for ever. Australian, New Zealander, Gurkha, Indian and English had all fought with equal gallantry. If we lost heavily, so did the Turk, and we detained his armies round Constantinople for a good part of a year, to the great benefit of our armies in Mesopotamia, and of the Russians. For the moment we had failed, but in Mesopotamia and Egypt we were now to profit from our experience.

Of the troops from Gallipoli, many went to Mesopotamia afterwards to win great victories, and others to Egypt. Meanwhile though Constantinople had been saved, the condition of her citizens was pitiable in the extreme, and many died from starvation. Syria was in even worse plight. To the west of Egypt there was an attack from the Sennussi, a tribe in Tripoli, which was easily and quickly defeated, and thus another German plan was foiled.

Shortly afterwards the Sherif of Mecca revolted, and Turkey speedily lost almost the whole of Arabia.

Meanwhile, as from the beginning of the war, a small English army was successfully defending Aden. The desert and the heat did not allow of any extensive campaign there.

Egypt.—All this time the Germans and Turks were looking with longing eyes on Egypt and the Suez Canal. In August, 1916, they made their second attempt; this time with much better preparation. It was of no avail. Near Rumani in the middle of the desert our troops were ready for them, and the army for the invasion of Egypt was utterly routed.

Our Generals now saw that for an attack on Turkey Egypt was a most suitable base. And instead of defending Egypt

from the Canal they decided to make an invasion of Palestine. The great obstacle was the desert, with neither water nor supplies. All through the next few months our men were occupied with the building of railways, collecting transport and stores and arranging for a regular supply of water. It was an arduous task, but it was done. When all was ready, we advanced on the Turkish base of El Arish, but the Turks did not await our assault and we entered an empty city. By January, 1917, we had reached Rafa on the border of Palestine, and now our chief obstacles to an advance into Palestine were the Turkish lines between Gaza and Beersheba.

These were found so strongly held that it was resolved to wait till the next cold weather before forcing them. We had learned now that time and preparation were essential for success, and that it was dangerous to attack with small forces.

In General Allenby, we now had a General of the greatest skill. When everything was ready, he struck at both Beersheba and Gaza. The Turks, driven from their stronghold, now retreated swiftly towards Jerusalem. Our pursuit was even swifter, and by a number of masterly moves General Allenby soon had Jerusalem surrounded. The famous city surrendered without a blow.

The Entry into Jerusalem.—The entry was very remarkable. Without either pomp or show General Allenby, the conqueror of Jerusalem, entered the city on foot. He was warmly welcomed by the inhabitants.

The Proclamation.—At the foot of the Tower of David, who was King of Jerusalem almost three thousand years ago, he read a proclamation, in which the following sentences occurred.

“It is my desire that every person should pursue his lawful work without fear of interruption.”

“Since your city is regarded with affection by the adherents of three great religions of mankind, therefore I do make known unto you that every sacred building will be maintained and protected according to the beliefs of those to whose faiths they are sacred.”

He was then welcomed by the Sheikhs and other notables of Jerusalem, and after exchange of courtesies he walked away.

To Indian Moslems fell the honour of guarding the great Mosque of Omar, and from this day forward Palestine has been regaining much of her ancient prosperity.

The Capture of Damascus.—Nine months later, after months of fighting near the Jordan, General Allenby suddenly struck again. The Turkish headquarters were now at a place called Nablus, strongly fortified. In September our troops, many of them Indian, broke through the Turkish lines between Rafat and the sea. By swift moves they got behind Nablus, which was surrendered, and in the course of a few weeks had almost annihilated the Turkish armies in Syria and Palestine and captured the great city of Damascus.

This was the beginning of the end. Syria and Palestine, Mesopotamia and Arabia had now been lost, and it was only a question of days when Turkey would surrender.

The defeat and surrender of Bulgaria prevented all hopes of further help from Germany.

The Fall of Enver and Talaat Bey.—The first signs of collapse came with the fall of Enver and Talaat Bey, who had led the Turkish Empire to its destruction, by listening to the temptations of Germany.

The Turkish Soldier.—The Turk indeed had fought with all his old stubbornness, particularly round Gallipoli and Kut. But he was fighting an Empire which had never admitted defeat, and he had not the support from Germany on which he had depended. The ordinary Turkish soldier showed much courtesy and chivalry, and indeed between the British and the Turkish armies there was very little ill-will, as neither had any cause for killing the other. For India, the campaigns both in Mesopotamia and Palestine had very special interest, as a large part of the armies came from India. In Palestine in particular, Australian, New Zealander, Indian, Gurkha and English all fought side by side.

But for 'Kut' and 'Gallipoli' the campaigns would have been almost one unbroken triumph. Yet the efforts at neither place were wasted. Victory is for him who dares, and wars are decided not by the first battle but by the last. And the last battles England usually wins.

The Work of the Navy.—And whilst we are proud of the bravery of our troops, let us not forget that it was the strength of the British Navy that made all these victories possible.

The Future of Turkey.—To the Turkish subject the future is now full of hope. Whatever the merit of the Turk, his Government has long been perhaps the worst in the world. Even in war it found time to order the massacre of about a million helpless Armenians.

The task of restoring Turkey will be a difficult one, but it is the purpose of the Allies to see that justice is done to each section of what was once the Turkish Empire, and in the long run, if this is secured, the war will not have been fought in vain, and as in the case of Jerusalem the British and Indian armies will be regarded not as conquerors but as deliverers.

6. AMERICA AND THE WAR. America's Neutrality.—When the European War broke out, it was the fixed determination of the American President that the United States should remain neutral. It was his hope also that sooner or later America would act as peace-maker between the contending parties.

Reasons for America's Neutrality.—For many years America, as the United States are often called, had prided herself that she was safe from the quarrels of Europe. Indeed the foundation of her dealings with other nations was this: "We shall prevent European nations from meddling in the affairs of America, and we on our part shall keep aloof from their wars."

Then America was far away from Belgium, and it seemed quite unnecessary for them to enter into another's quarrel. There were many Germans in America and at first many, particularly in the west of the United States, thought that there was a good deal to be said on both sides.

German organizations were very active and spent enormous sums of money in trying to win over American support.

Then many Americans thought that war is an evil and that peace is better at all costs. The Germans in America encouraged this belief, and it was strange to see them trying to persuade the Americans of the blessings of peace, whilst at the same time they were ravaging Belgium.

Then some in America favoured neutrality on quite different grounds. It was America's interest to keep out of the war. "Whilst France, England and Germany are destroying each other, America will benefit," they thought.

Belgium Appeals to America.—Now though the United States had resolved to keep aloof from the affairs of Europe, her statesmen had signed a treaty in 1907 at the Hague in Holland in which it was agreed that no neutral nation should be attacked in war. Belgium was a neutral nation and it was thought by many both in America and England that it was the duty of the United States, even if she was not prepared to go to war, to protest against Germany's conduct in Belgium.

A party of Belgians came to visit the American President, Dr. Woodrow Wilson. They told him of the cruel wrongs which Belgium had suffered. But they got no comfort from the President.

He had resolved on neutrality and he counselled the American people neither in thought, word nor deed to do anything in support of either side.

America Protests Against Great Britain's Action.—Meanwhile English ships were stopping American ships to see that they had nothing on board them that might help the German armies. The first protest made by the American Government was not to Germany over Belgium, but to Great Britain on the subject of the loss caused to Americans by England's stopping their ships. In England and France many were very sad about the conduct of President Wilson. They did not expect the Americans to take part in the war, but they thought they might at least place no obstacle in the way of those who were trying to deliver Belgium.

Yet though the President was neutral, many in America and indeed in every State in that vast country did their best to send food to the unfortunate Belgians, and it was largely due to them that many survived at all.

The Sinking of the Lusitania.—On May 17th, 1915, a German submarine sank the Lusitania, a great passenger steamer sailing from New York in America to Liverpool in England. Over twelve hundred were drowned, and among them many

American citizens, women and children. It was thought that now the American President would take some action, if not on behalf of Belgium, at least in protection of Americans. He contented himself with writing strong letters to Germany in which he said that strict account would be taken of her conduct. The sinking of boats still went on. American as well as English boats were sunk. The President kept on protesting to each side, to the Germans for sinking ships, to the English for stopping them.

The letters of the President became quite proverbial, and his patience was thought remarkable.

The Presidential Election.—In 1916 there was an election of a President in the United States, where rulers hold office only for a term of years. Dr. Wilson was again chosen. He had kept America out of the war, and most people in America were well pleased with this. In one of his speeches he had said that there was such a thing as being "too proud to fight," and this phrase made the English and the French very angry again. As before, they could understand why America had kept out of the war. They did not see any special virtue in this, as they themselves had no choice in the matter.

Joy in Germany.—The Germans were very pleased that President Wilson was again chosen. From him they had no fear. Meanwhile they had been doing their best to drive America into the ranks of their enemies. They started many conspiracies in the United States. They did their best to bring about a war between the United States and Mexico, and for this reason.

From the beginning of the war the English and French had been buying munitions and stores of every kind in America and had taken them to France. The Germans could not do this, as the British fleet prevented them from taking them to Germany. So the Germans thought: "If we can stir up war in America itself, the Americans will not be able to sell to the English, as they will want everything for themselves."

The Submarine Campaign.—More serious still, the Germans now announced that they would sink boats of every country which approached the coasts of England. This

practically forbade Americans from sailing on the seas, and was really war on the United States. A change now came over the policy of the President. He had recently been speaking about the advantages of a peace without victory to either side, which did not please either in England or France, and he had addressed questions to each side as to what they were fighting for. The Allies replied frankly: the Germans replied evasively.

The Awakening of America.—The Americans now saw that this war was more than a European War; that it affected the whole world; that Germany's conduct was really a threat to the United States and to all the principles for which the United States had stood; that it was against both Justice and Liberty.

The English had seen this the day the Germans entered Belgium. It had taken almost three years for the Americans to grasp this, long and weary years for France and Belgium, but it was the judgment of mankind. A population of about a hundred millions had watched the struggle impartially and from a distance. They decided that Germany was utterly wrong.

America Declares War.—At first the President thought that it would be sufficient to break off relations with Germany, but the submarine campaign continued, and in April 1917 the United States declared war on Germany.

At first the Germans were not greatly alarmed. The United States had a very small army, only a few thousand, nor had they taken steps even after the outbreak of the European War to prepare a big one. The Germans accordingly thought, "The American army is too small to do us any harm. Even if it grows, with our submarines we shall sink all American ships, and their army will never reach Europe. Before it tries to come, we shall have defeated both the English and French."

The Mistakes of Germany.—The Germans had made another mistake. Just as they had thought the English would not make war till the French had been beaten, so they believed that the Americans would never go to war, and that if they did make war, it would make little difference. The President was a weak man in their opinion, who could do nothing but write letters. In their anxiety to defeat the English by means of

submarines they deliberately risked and brought about war with America.

The Consequences to Germany.—There could have been no greater error. So far from being a weak man, President Wilson has proved himself one of the greatest men that America or any other country has produced. When neutrality seemed the true policy of America, nothing could turn him from his purpose. When war was necessary, he led the American people, and no one has been more eloquent than he in exposing the deceit of the Germans. If he delayed in preparations for war, when war came there was no mistake about America's policy. They resolved to wage it with all their might.

To the Allies the fact that America had joined their side was welcome on many grounds. First it seemed to prove the Justice of their Cause. The one great neutral power left had decided against Germany. To those who had endured the horrors of war for so long the knowledge that great new armies were coming was very comforting. Russia had failed us, America more than took her place.

To the English the alliance with America was especially welcome. In language, in religion, in thought the two nations had long been almost one. To England the United States owed her law, and indeed each country shared a common inheritance. Though differences had divided them, England was the great mother-state. The German had challenged the Anglo-Saxon, to use the name by which both the English and Americans are called. He had lost.

The Delay of America.—The Americans decided to place all their resources of money, ships, food and munitions at the disposal of the Allies. They strove much, but as the Germans had foreseen, it took time to prepare great armies and to get them across the Atlantic. Almost a year passed from the day America declared war. In France there was little difference. Russia collapsed altogether, and in March, 1918, the Germans made their last effort to defeat France before the Americans could arrive. For a moment all seemed lost, and once again the Germans were outside Paris. Would the Americans ever come? General Foch, the great French General, was not

dismayed. Again he knew the moment when to strike. The English sent every soldier that could be spared from England. As the American armies had not arrived, with great self-sacrifice their separate units served beside the English and the French. Once again from the river Marne the Germans were rolled back. Another race had been run and won, and once again the Germans had lost. They had hoped to win before the Americans could come. They had hoped in vain.

As regards the part which America took in the war the great thing to remember is that when the challenge from Germany came clearly and unmistakably, America accepted it. She too had learned that though war may be an evil, there are times when it is necessary to fight for what is right: that in some struggles no country can stand aloof and say that it is no concern of theirs. Germany had defied the United States. She had made war on the Law of Nations. America dared not look on with folded arms. She too had to make her choice, and she made it, though with long delay, on the side of right.

The Actual Contribution of America.—Men in hundreds of thousands now poured across the seas from America. All the wealth of America was behind the Allies. Their scientists worked side by side with ours in coping with the submarines. Food and munitions came across the Atlantic in vast quantities, and there were endless resources of men. In France, Americans built harbours and a whole net-work of railways. They were prepared for war on a big scale. American soldiers showed a great genius for the art of war, and at St. Mihiel in particular they gained a most complete victory over the Germans. The war, it is true, ended before they had a chance of putting their whole weight into the struggle. It was enough that their van-guards had come and were coming, and they completely turned the balance in favour of the Allies.

To President Wilson is due the credit of seeing more clearly than perhaps any living man the enormous issues of the Peace settlement after the war. And if there is any real progress in human affairs after Peace is signed, it is admitted by all that Woodrow Wilson clearly showed the way. It fell to his lot to pronounce the doom of the Empires of Austria and Germany

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as they formerly existed.

For those who have eyes to see, the union of England and the United States with France is one of the happiest results which the war has brought about. As showing the harmony between England and the United States, in England American soldiers have been welcomed as warmly as our own soldiers. In London the American flag and the English flag float side by side, and there was as much joy in London over the first American victory as in Washington.

And on the 21st October, 1918, some thirty millions of Americans met in all the cities of the United States to express their gratitude to the British Fleet for its services in the war to America and all mankind.

It is this spirit among the Allies which has been the main factor in bringing a glorious victory.

7. THE CRUSHING DEFEAT OF GERMANY AND HER ALLIES.—In the short space of forty days the Germans and their allies were completely defeated, and indeed one fortnight saw the collapse of three great Empires, Turkey, Austria, and Germany.

Bulgaria.—In one week Bulgaria and Turkey received crushing blows. From south and west the Allies pressed upon Bulgaria, and drove its armies in confusion from their strongest positions. The Bulgarians had long been weary of the war, which had brought them none of the profit hoped. The Serbians fought with the greatest fury, having many wrongs to avenge. Beside them fought French, Italians and Greeks. The British invaded Bulgaria. When the Bulgarians saw that all was lost they asked the British Government for terms. The British Government replied that if they wished for terms they must surrender their country to the Allies. In our "Tale of Serbia" we have seen how the King of Bulgaria, Ferdinand, now lost his throne—a fitting punishment for his treacherous attack on his neighbour, Serbia, when she was being assaulted by two powerful enemies, Germany and Austria.

The surrender of Bulgaria was important, as it cut off Turkey from Austria; and the Germans and Austrians could now give no help to either.

Turkey.—Meanwhile, as we have seen, the British General Allenby with his armies, which consisted very largely of Indian troops, though English, Australians and Gurkhas, as well as New Zealanders, fought as well, had swiftly conquered all Palestine, and taken the great city of Damascus. They utterly crushed three Turkish armies, and now marched swiftly on Aleppo, which fell without resistance. There was no more complete victory in the war. French troops occupied Beirut, and Palestine and Syria were ours.

The capture of Aleppo meant that no more troops could be sent from Turkey to Mesopotamia. Our armies there were now ready to advance on Mosul. In October, 1918, they defeated or captured the whole Turkish forces opposed to them.

There was no hope of further aid from Germany. The armies of Turkey had been utterly defeated both in Syria and Mesopotamia. There was no point in continuing the struggle. The weary populations had long been sick of the war.

The Turks now in their turn asked the British Government for peace. They obtained it on condition that they surrendered Constantinople and all the forts of Turkey to the Allies, disbanded the Germans, disarmed their armies almost entirely, and returned all prisoners. A few weeks later the British fleet sailed up to Constantinople. Turkey had unconditionally surrendered.

Austria-Hungary.—Those who spin the destinies of men had now decreed the doom of Austria-Hungary. The aged Emperor Francis Joseph had died before witnessing the final ruin of his house. His heir the Emperor Charles had succeeded to a fatal inheritance. From the day he came to the throne he fervently desired peace, but Austria also was now in the hands of Germany, which forbade him to make terms with the Allies. He had not the power, if he had the will, to break away from his master. The Allies had now determined that all the nations which formed the Empire of Austria-Hungary—Germans, Magyars, Poles, Czechs, Roumanians and Slavs—should be free. For generations it had been held together by a division of power between the Germans in Austria and the

Magyars in Hungary. They had agreed to keep down the Czechs, Roumanians and Slavs, but on the whole had treated the Poles better than either the Russians or Prussians had done. The Austrians wanted peace, but did not want the destruction of their empire. They had had many defeats. Everywhere there was dissension. The population was almost starving. England was far away, but the British fleet, assisted by the fleets of the Allies, stopped supplies for Austria. In the early days of the war they had been defeated many times by the Russians. Against Italy, though they had gained one great victory assisted by the Germans, they had suffered terrible losses. Their armies sent to save Bulgaria had met with heavy defeat. From the Alps the Italians now struck, assisted chiefly by a British army. In prisoners alone they captured three hundred thousand men. The doom of Austria was sealed. The young Emperor Charles fled from his throne, and the Empire of Austria-Hungary split into fragments. Austria had now to go the way of Bulgaria and Turkey. All their chief ports were occupied by the Allies. They had to surrender most of their fleet, to disband their armies; whilst the victorious Allies had the right to go where they would in Austria-Hungary and to occupy all the chief forts.

Germany.—The arch enemy of all still remained. For over three months she had met daily with continuous defeat. The submarine campaign had failed. In the air her airmen could do nothing against the victorious Allies. She had hoped much from Russia: but her bad faith there now recoiled on her own head. She had encouraged lawlessness: she now reaped the fruit. Her allies one by one had forsaken her. Her god was Force, and in the hour of peril none stood by her. She was alone and unbefriended. She had gloated over the destruction of Serbia. Serbian troops had now taken a chief part in driving her armies across the Danube. She had encompassed the ruin of Belgium. A Belgian army was now advancing with the Allies across Belgium. She had despised America. From Washington came, in the words of President Wilson, solemn warnings as to the fate of Tyranny. Machinery, food, guns and men were pouring into France every day from across the

Atlantic. She had boasted that the reserves of France had been destroyed. Marshal Foch was still able to produce them and remorselessly to find each day Germany's weak points.

She had admitted that the English were brave, but had laughed at their generalship. Now from the air, from the sea, in Flanders, and in France Britain was striking with all her might. From Mosul and Jerusalem to Ostend, Germany and her allies were beaten at every point.

The Astonishing Defeat of Germany.—There was still one hope. If they could secure the line of the river Meuse, they might still be in a strong position, and save their armies. If they could reach the Rhine they might hold out for months. Revolution in Germany was talked of, but postponed to see what the result of German generalship would be. The Allies were too quick for them. All along the line the Allies pressed, from Flanders to the borders of Switzerland. In the centre German resistance broke down. Behind were the hills and forests of Ardennes from which there was no escape. The entire German army was caught in a trap. Their forces in Flanders could not get away. Neither could those to the south. All was lost.

Germany Sues for Peace.—Meanwhile the Germans, as had the Austrians before them, appealed to President Wilson to give them terms of peace. He wisely referred the matter to the Allied Commanders in France. They were now in a happy position. If the Germans continued the war, their whole force was doomed: if they agreed to the Allies' terms these could be as severe as the Allies chose to make them.

The Armistice Meeting.—The Germans saw that all was lost. Their envoys came with much pomp and show to arrange and discuss terms. Marshal Foch, the French-General commanding the Allied Forces, and admiral Wemyss, the British Admiral, refused to have any discussion. The terms were read to the envoys. They were so severe that they were quite overcome, and dared not accept them without asking the German Government. The trouble was that the German armies were now in such confusion that the German envoy could not get back through the German lines to Germany. In the end he was forced to go by aeroplane. Seventy-two hours were given the



Sir Douglas Haig,
the British Commander-in-Chief in France.

Germans for a reply. They must accept or reject the Allies' terms. They agreed to them all.

The Meaning of an Armistice.—Now an armistice is nothing but a cessation or stoppage of fighting. It is to be distinguished from a signing of peace terms, and the conclusion of peace. It is often of a temporary nature. In this war, however, the Allies, whether dealing with Bulgaria, or Turkey, or Austria, or Germany, before agreeing to stop fighting insisted on such terms that each country was clearly in their hands. Peace terms would take longer to work out. The map of half Europe and half Asia, and much of Africa would be changed, and there was the bill to be prepared. Germany must pay for the damage she had caused by sea, land and air. The accounts for four years of crime had still to be presented. The armistice was only the beginning.

The Terms of the Armistice with Germany.—The terms were thirty-five in number and very severe. They left no doubt as to which side had won. The most striking perhaps was that Germany should at once give up Alsace and Lorraine, the two provinces she had snatched from France over forty years before. The immediate object of the Allies was to secure that Germany could do no more mischief. On land this was brought about by three of the conditions: (a) They were to deliver, among other things, 5,000 heavy guns and 30,000 machine guns. This would cripple any further military effort.

(b) They were to retire beyond the Rhine, and the Allies were to occupy all the chief fortresses along the Rhine, and to control the whole country for about twenty miles on the German side of the river. This meant that the Allies would control Germany, as the Rhine is Germany's last barrier.

(c) The Germans were to surrender five thousand railway engines, and one hundred and fifty thousand railway wagons. The object of this was to prevent the Germans from moving either armies or stores, if they should wish to break the armistice terms.

The agreement also provided for the handing over of all military stores and coal.

The Air.—Two thousand aeroplanes were to be given up at

once. This would prevent risk of further attacks from the air.

At Sea.—Seventy-four warships were to be at once surrendered. The others were to be disarmed and placed under the supervision of the Allies. All submarines that could put to sea were to be surrendered. The others were to be placed under the supervision of the Allies. This meant the end of the German fleet.

Prisoners.—All prisoners in German hands were to be released at once. The Allies made no promise to return at this time German prisoners to Germany.

In the East.—The Germans must at once leave Russia, Roumania and Turkey; and all treaties they had made with Russia or Roumania were to be abandoned.

This meant the end of Germany's Eastern Dream. The evacuation of Belgium and Alsace-Lorraine meant the end of the Western Dream.

The surrender of the German fleet was equally galling. For twenty years the Germans had hoped for the day when they would meet and defeat the British fleet in battle. Now they had had four years' opportunity ending in an inglorious surrender.

Worse was still to follow. They were to lose Poland and to pay for the damage they had done by land, air and sea. Their Colonies had been lost already. They were now to restore to the Allies all the money they had stolen from Russia, Belgium or Roumania.

Revolution and Despair.—Following on defeat in battle came revolution. The German Emperor, the All-Highest, fled secretly from Germany to Holland, leaving his wife and family in Berlin. From the fleet came the first signs of the coming storm, when the German sailors refused to obey orders. This spirit soon spread over Germany, and everywhere there was uproar. It was a fitting end to the boasting and the insane dreams of World-Empire which had filled the heads of the German people and their rulers.

What the future will bring to Germany and the countries she has wronged no man knows. It is enough now to know that in four years the mightiest military power in Europe has been

humbled; that three great Empires have been shattered. The victory of the Allies was swift and complete. Germany had striven for world-mastery: she had lost everything.

8. ENGLAND'S NAVY IN THE WAR.—We have seen how in the beginning of the war the Germans and their Allies were much stronger on land, and we have learned a little of some of the causes which prevented them from winning at the first. To the Germans England was the main enemy, and they clearly saw that the most essential thing for them was to break England's sea power. This was the reason for their submarine campaign. They said, "We cannot defeat England's battleships, but if we can cut England off from her Allies by submarines, the resistance of the Allies will collapse. And why? They are able to continue simply because, by the help of the English fleet, supplies of food, munitions, and men can come to them from all parts of the world. Let us cut off these supplies and the war will be over." So strongly did they believe in this, that they risked the enmity of America. It was only by sea that American armies could come to France. "If we sink all boats they will be unable to come."

The Perils of the Submarine Campaign.—It is difficult for us, who perhaps have never seen the sea, to understand in what peril the Empire was from this wicked plot. Britain is an island, the seas are both vast and deep, and it was impossible night and day to guard against this silent foe. The danger was a new one, as in no previous war had merchant ships been attacked in this way, nor had any plans been made to deal with such attacks. Thousands of ships were coming to and from England every day laden with precious freight.

If the German Submarines had won.—We shall best understand the danger if we ask what would have happened if the German hopes had been realized, and they had cut off England as they hoped. Our armies, our huge supplies of stores, of munitions, of coal could not have gone to France. France must have surrendered. If the enemy had controlled the Mediterranean, it would have been impossible to defeat Bulgaria. If they had controlled the Indian Ocean our armies would never have reached Palestine or Mesopotamia. If they

had gained the mastery in the Atlantic, neither grain, nor stores, nor men could have come from America, or from the other parts of the world. England too would have had to yield, and with the surrender of England would have come the collapse of the Empire and of the Allies, and Germany would have had Europe and Asia at her mercy.

How England Faced the Peril.—England, however, was not afraid. Her sailors went to sea as before, regardless of the death that without warning might await them. The Navy, the men of the Merchant Service, the Fishermen, all went forth to hunt for submarines. Our inventors discovered means of finding out where submarines were sailing perhaps hundreds of feet below the level of the sea. Our airmen watched day by day to find them. Even merchant ships were armed, so as to be able to defend themselves if attacked, and they learned how to ram submarines, how to avoid them, and how to fire upon them. As the war went on, it was the custom for the more important ships to be accompanied by Naval vessels. It was difficult to convoy all as there were so many thousands. A system of information was devised to enable ships to take courses away from the usual routes.

The most important point to guard was the English Channel. Great steel nets were prepared with which to trap the submarines. Aeroplanes and destroyers guarded it with the utmost care. Mine fields extending for hundreds of miles were gradually formed, and the submarines found the shallow waters of the North Sea "unhealthy," whilst they very rarely went into the Channel.

It was a trial of wits between the English and the Germans. The English constantly found new ways of dealing with the submarines. After a few months the Germans discovered these and tried other plans. They built new kinds of submarines which could break through the English nets. The English then found new electrical contrivances by which they could tell where submarines were, and, by means of a kind of bomb which was called "a depth charge," and which went hundreds of feet down into the sea, they destroyed many.

Ostend and Zeebrugge.—Perhaps the finest exploit in the

whole war at sea was the blocking of two harbours which were the chief bases of the German submarines during their temporary stay in Belgium. Though the harbours were strongly fortified and protected by guns and mines, the British sailed boldly in, fearing nothing, and succeeded in practically blocking the harbours. Thereafter the Germans had to find other main bases.

Meanwhile England grew more and more food supplies. Her shipyards worked as never before, and if boats were sunk new ones were laid down at once. Close on two hundred German submarines were destroyed. Our armies were transported with few losses. Twenty-two millions of soldiers were carried in safety: five thousand were lost. The great conspiracy failed and England remained Mistress of the Seas.

German Crimes at Sea.—The most serious part of the business was the inhumanity and faithlessness of the Germans. Often when they succeeded in sinking a ship without warning, they fired on the passengers and crew as they were endeavouring to escape by small boats. For women or children they cared not, such was their insane hate, and such the hardness of heart of men under a cruel Government. A German Minister in South America, whose despatches were captured, explained the reason for firing on escaping passengers: "Sink without leaving a trace," he said. In the unseen depths of the sea the Germans hoped that their crimes would lie concealed. On hospital ships they also waged war, and the sufferings of some of the wounded on board them, suddenly plunged into the sea, were indescribable. Why did they attack hospital ships against all the rules of war? Each hospital ship sunk was a ship less for England, and as at first English Captains trusted in Germany's word, and sailed without precautions, as their ships were clearly marked with the "Red Cross," they sank them more easily. Neutral ships also, which in previous wars were not attacked in this way, were freely sunk by German submarines, with the result that at long length America declared war.

Why did the Germans sink neutral vessels? For much the same reason as they attacked hospital ships. Each ship sunk was a ship less with which to carry goods to England and they hoped to prevent all from sailing.

Wicked as their policy was, it was a mistake to make little of it. If it had succeeded, it would have been very serious indeed. It failed as it deserved to fail.

The German Fleet.—Whilst these crimes were going on, under the orders of the German Government, and each week brought some new outrage, the German High Sea Fleet remained hidden at Kiel. It was the greatest fleet in the world save one and for twenty years the Germans have striven to make it equal and superior to the English fleet. Yet in over four years of war it only once came out. From prudence or fear it abandoned its duty. It allowed the English to send mighty armies to France daily without endeavouring to stop them. The submarine campaign was a confession of weakness. Just as great armies do not win by treachery, so great navies do not fight in this way.

The Battle of Jutland.—Once only, on the 31st of May, 1916, did the German fleet venture to engage in battle with the British. The Germans fought bravely when there was only a weaker British Squadron to compete with. But when the whole British fleet came in sight their one desire was, not to sink the British fleet, but in the darkness to escape to Germany. How many German ships were sunk was not known. What we do know is that at dawn when the British Navy made search there were no German ships to be seen. Those that were left escaped to their harbours in the darkness, and the German fleet has never ventured out again. It was the great sea battle of the war, and it left the British fleet as before Mistress of the Sea.

The Story of Jack Cornwell.—Many brave deeds were done in the battle. Of these the one which was most noticed in England was the heroism of Jack Cornwell, a boy but sixteen years old. He was severely wounded early in the fight, but stayed at his post without saying a word to any one. When asked why he had not reported his wound, he replied, "I thought I might be wanted." A day or two later he died and every schoolboy knows the story of how Jack Cornwell stayed at his post till the last. After his death he was given the Victoria Cross for valour.

The British Admiral who commanded that day was Admiral

Jellicoe, whilst the Admiral who enticed the German fleet on to face the British fleet was Admiral Beatty. Their names will go down to history as the men who commanded the fleet which saved the world—for if England's fleet had failed her, if the German submarine menace had succeeded, nothing could have saved mankind from a German tyranny. To their leadership, to the courage and daring of the men under them the Allied victory is chiefly due.

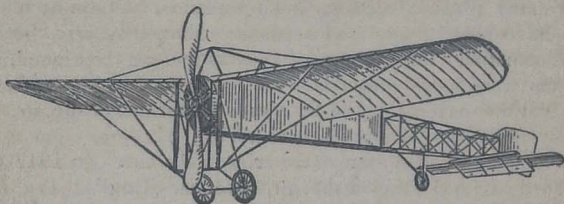
The End of the German Fleet.—In the last weeks of the war, the German Government planned a naval battle: but the sailors knew that if they faced the British fleet they would all be lost, and refused to fight. Rather than fight the English they revolted. It was an inglorious end for the German fleet but it showed that the British fleet was supreme. Our terms were severe but they were well deserved. The German fleet passed out of history and into the hands of the Allies. The infamy of its record remains.

9. THE WAR IN THE AIR.—This war has been fought not only on land and sea and under the sea, but also in the air, and it is strange that in the air the fighting has been more like that of ancient times, as in the *Mahabharat*, when champions of each side used to go forth and meet the enemy in single combat.

Uses of Aeroplanes.—The uses of airships or aeroplanes in the war have been many. When the enemy is going to attack, airmen bring the news, and they have done much of the work which in former wars was done by scouts or cavalry. They take many photos in the air and bring back exact reports of the enemy's positions and movements. So efficient have they been that it has been very difficult for either side to surprise the other. They often direct gunners or infantry from the air, and show them where to attack. Airmen carry with them bombs or machine guns or other weapons, and with these they attack the forces of the enemy, either on the march or in their strongholds, and often put them to great confusion. The airmen of each side often fought each other, and sometimes they fought in squadrons. The Navies of each side had sea-planes, which can either be propelled in the sea or fly in the air if need be. With these it is possible to learn where the enemy's ships are,

and they have been used to attack his ships and submarines.

Zeppelins.—At the beginning of the war the Germans used big airships called Zeppelins which were sometimes two hundred yards long. With these they used to visit the cities of England and France at night, and caused the deaths of many innocent women and children. By means of these they hoped to strike terror into the hearts of the people and even to destroy London. In both of these hopes they were disappointed.



An Aeroplane.

The Zeppelins had many defects. They were very huge and could easily be attacked by the smaller aeroplanes, and if the wind changed they were very difficult to steer; so in the end the Germans, having lost many of them, gave them up.

In the days of Zeppelin raids no lights were allowed in London and other cities at nights, and so the Zeppelins often lost their way, and the airmen did not know where they were going. For this reason they preferred to come on moonlight nights. Out at sea and along the coasts guard was kept, and when the news came that a Zeppelin was coming, the guns at our defended places got ready, and our airmen ascended to fight. Once a Zeppelin came over London, about 10,000 feet above the city. A young English airman—Lieutenant Robinson was his name—went up to fight it. His age was only twenty-one. Hundreds of thousands in the big city watched the battle, and there were loud cheers when the Lieutenant destroyed the Zeppelin. It caught fire and fell like a shooting star, and was soon a ruined mass on the ground. Its crew were burned to death during the fall. In spite of their murderous work, their bodies were treated with respect. There were many similar fights, and those who

destroyed Zeppelins were regarded as great heroes, for they saved many innocent lives.

The English from the beginning had smaller machines, and their airmen were much more daring than the Germans. The Germans liked to come in the dark. The English fought either by day or night, and when they saw one German airship or ten German airships, they at once fought.

The Superiority of the Allies in the Air.—There are of course many kinds of airships and aeroplanes, and on each side there have been many improvements since the war began. Whilst sometimes for a month or two, as the war continued, the Germans were more powerful than the Allies, in general the Allies had the mastery. And by common consent, in the air, the English record has been the best of all.

The English gained many victories in the air. In 1917 the Germans lost 4,000 ships in the air, and the English lost one thousand. These figures show that there have been many battles in the air, and that the English have been superior to the Germans.

What the Airmen have Accomplished.—In every field of battle they have been of service. Thus in Mesopotamia when our troops were advancing on Baghdad, the Turks were attempting to bridge the Tigris. Three times a single English airman came and dropped bombs on the bridge, and prevented the Turks from sending troops across the river. Thus one man stopped a host, and the same thing has been happening in France almost daily. In the war in Africa, the very appearance of an aeroplane caused the greatest terror, and tribes fled in terror at the sight. It would be impossible to say too much of what our airmen accomplished, especially during the last year of the war. The downfall of Germany is very largely due to them. They have been the eyes of our armies, and with increasing knowledge they got the better of the enemy almost every time. On the other hand, the Germans could make no effective reply to our raids on Germany.

"L. of C."—In addition to the work of scouting and observation and fighting the enemy's aircraft their tasks have been many, and perhaps we shall best understand them by asking

what are some of the requirements for a successful campaign. In the first place large factories are necessary for the manufacture of guns and shells. When these are made they are taken to great depôts or stores, and then distributed to the various armies. It is the same with food, clothes, boots and other supplies. An enormous organisation is necessary for armies of millions of men. When bases are established for the distribution of these things, they are then taken by road, rail, sea or river to where they are required. Now these routes, whether by rail, road, or river, are of the greatest importance to any army. They have two main purposes. They are used either to bring supplies or reinforcements of men or munitions from the base to the battlefields, or as means of communication between one army and another on its right or left, or between different parts of the same army. They are called "lines of communication" or "L. of C."

Attacks on "L. of C."—Now here is where the airmen came in. They attacked German factories, and so often stopped supplies at the very source. They attacked railways in Germany and railway stations, and delayed the Germans in sending munitions to their depôts. They attacked the depôts and so made further confusion. They made many attacks on "L. of C." and so often stores never reached the German armies. Their rails were broken up, different units were cut off from one another. They dropped bombs on armies on the march and on trains. Particularly perhaps in Mesopotamia or Palestine they often seriously disturbed the enemy's cavalry, and above an example has been given of how they upset the enemy's plans on river "L. of C."

Now we can see the main mistakes made by the Germans in their air warfare. If instead of wandering in the air over England and France and attacking at random the quarters of civilians, they had from the beginning aimed at our factories and "L. of C." both on land and sea, the war might easily have taken a different course. They missed the whole science of air warfare and scattered their energies: nor had they sufficient daring to go straight for our strongholds night and day regardless of their loss. They preferred the darkness, and so often

missed their aims altogether.

The Chivalry of the Air.—The airmen on each side knew one another, and indeed both sides have fought very bravely. In their combats with the English in the air, German airmen have kept the rules of war, and indeed some of them have shown more chivalry in the air than in any other element.

The Wickedness of German Policy.—Unfortunately the bravery of their airmen has been soiled by the German practice of bombing towns and hospitals contrary to all the rules of war. They have thus brought quite unnecessary suffering to many. The English custom was to attack the enemy's fortresses or his airmen, but not the houses of people who were not fighting.

However, the Germans in due course were punished for their crimes, and for many months English airmen daily visited Germany, and instead of there being panic in England, there long was great fear in Germany on account of the Allies' airmen.

Now that the war is over each side will have many stories to tell of air battles. But the German airmen spoiled their good name by their attacks on hospitals and on helpless women and children.

Progress of Aircraft.—Such progress has been made in aircraft that it is hoped soon to be able to come from London to Delhi in a few days by air. Mails may be carried by air routes, and for all that we know the whole course of travelling may be changed. Railways, roads, and steamers will still be used, but we may expect to see aeroplanes as common as motor cars. The war will bring many changes, and this will be one of them.

The Defence of India.—India has been defended in many ways in this war, but we owe much to the Allied airmen, who often guided our forces to victory. And if we ask how it was that the Allies gained such victories in the air, the answer is twofold. First our airmen on the whole displayed the greater daring and resource, and secondly our command of the sea brought us unceasingly supplies for the manufacture of aeroplanes. The Germans on the other hand had to depend on their own resources, and on what they could levy from the countries they ravaged, and as we have seen they adopted a mistaken policy.

Stories of Air Warfare.—Two stories may illustrate the chivalry of the warriors in the air. When a famous German airman was killed, our airman dropped a wreath of flowers over the German lines in memory of his bravery. Another comes from Mesopotamia. At the funeral of General Maude, the English conqueror of Baghdad, a Turkish aeroplane appeared to drop a wreath out of respect for the great Commander.

The English airmen have often been not without humour. One 1st of April, when the Germans were in occupation of Lille in France, a strange object was dropped from the clouds. All ran in terror, and were afraid to touch it lest it should be a bomb. After some time one of the braver spirits came forward to examine it. He found that it was only a football, and on it was inscribed "April Fool."

But what we should chiefly remember is not the chivalry or the humour, but the gallantry of many of these young airmen, who often gave their lives for the cause. Often they have gone to certain death. Most of them have been very young, and often not more than boys. Once when a squadron of 22 German aeroplanes came to attack England, one airman went up to meet them. He fought them all unhesitatingly till overcome, and then he and his aeroplane plunged into the sea fourteen thousand feet below.

Another was seriously wounded, and he might have saved his life had he descended to the enemy's lines. He preferred to save his machine, brought it safely home, and died next day.

On land and sea our soldiers and sailors have fought equally bravely, but it is perhaps in these air battles that the spirit and daring of the Briton has shown itself at its best.

10. HOW THE BRITISH ARMY WAS ORGANISED AND TRAINED.—Now that the war has been won, we are apt to forget the difficulties in the way, and the organisation which was necessary. England as we all know trusted before the war to her Navy, and had but a small army. In less than two years this army had grown ten-fold. Millions joined of their own accord, but many had never seen a rifle before.

The Needs of an Army.—Now in a country like England where it rains on perhaps two days out of every three an army

has to be housed. It cannot live in the open air. Every available building had to be used for the quartering of the troops. Thousands of huts were built, and thousands of tents ordered, and the material had to be brought from all parts of the world, and then manufactured.

Food.—Now a soldier cannot fight without food, and before the end of the war arrangements had to be made for the regular feeding of perhaps ten million men every day. Plans had to be made for the supply of such food as suited the habits of the soldiers. Thus for Indian Troops special arrangements were necessary. Then when the food had been obtained, it had to be sent across the sea to the bases: and from there sent to various depôts near which the troops were, and up to the firing line. Roads often had to be made, railways built, and harbours constructed where the food could be unloaded from ships. We cannot conceive how such an enormous arrangement was ever made.

Clothes and Boots.—Then soldiers have to be clothed, and all must have uniform, otherwise there is great confusion. Sailors have a different class of uniforms, and so have the flying men. What suits in a warm country like Mesopotamia is useless in the snow. At the outbreak of war there were uniforms for some hundred thousands: but suddenly millions of suits had to be prepared, and there was not enough cloth in the country for the sudden demand, nor yet dye. At the beginning some recruits got blue clothes, till "Khaki" could be prepared for them, and huge orders were given to the factories of England and America in order to have uniforms delivered in time. "Khaki" colour is better than blue as an enemy cannot see it so well.

Boots were another trouble, and the success of many a campaign depends on whether an army has strong and well fitting boots. These have to be made of the proper size, and no matter how strong they are they soon wear out. Perhaps two hundred million pairs of boots have been used by the British armies in this war. These things seem small, but if we think over the matter we shall see that armies have to be provided with shelter, be properly fed, and have proper clothes and boots: and that this demands a great organisation.

Sanitation.—Then every care has to be taken to prevent

disease in great armies. Drains have to be made, and the camps kept clear of flies and filth of every kind. A supply of pure water has to be obtained, and several times both in East Africa, in Palestine, in Gallipoli and in Mesopotamia the water supply was the most difficult problem of all, and several battles were lost because there was no water to be had. To Gallipoli most of our water had to be brought by sea from Egypt, and before we conquered Palestine our first task was to secure water in the desert for great armies. It would be a nice little problem for you to think how this was done.

Equipment.—Our supply of rifles and ammunition and guns was sufficient for a small army. But what was to be done for an army of millions? They cannot fight with clubs against modern armies. Now a rifle is a very delicate piece of workmanship, which cannot be made in a day or many days, and it was a very serious problem, when thousands of recruits were joining every day, to get sufficient rifles for them. Rifles need ammunition: in a single day millions of bullets might be fired. Equally important was the artillery, and in the first winter of the war our troops had very little of this, and had to keep back with their rifles the Germans who had heavy guns.

It was thought that we could never have guns and shells ready in time. But our Prime Minister resolved that it must be done and could be done. He went round England, visited all the chief manufacturing centres, invited the help of our great manufacturers. Whereas we had before the war perhaps four or five gun factories, before the end of the war we had some ten thousand. Cities had sprung up: and hundreds of thousands of women workers were enrolled.

In addition to the army, guns and all kinds of weapons were required for our navy, for the aeroplanes and for anti-aircraft defences. England seemed one vast factory. For all these things material had to be brought from all parts of the world, ships had to be built; our coal mines were kept busy. We had not only to supply our own armies, but send much to our allies. It is not without cause that the Germans say, "England was our chief enemy." We were the workshop of the Allied armies.

The Training of an Army.—It is one thing, however, to

have equipment of all kinds ; but how were millions of men who had never seen rifle or gun to be trained ? Our small armies left for the front at the outbreak of war. Recruits came in by the hundred thousand. If they were not trained for war they would be a rabble and worse than useless. There was a shortage of officers for the new armies, and a shortage of instructors. How was it met ? Many Englishmen, though they had not thought much about military matters, have had a good training at school. They learn there to act for themselves, and to rule others. So at the Universities. These may not turn out thousands of scholars, but they turn out thousands of *men*, who can do things. Even in times of peace at the great public schools and at the Universities there were many who had joined the Officers' Training Corps. The whole nation had delighted in games and exercise. To many war seemed a great game, and they came forward in thousands now. Oxford alone supplied 2,500 officers in the first year of the war. Though many had gone to the front, some were left. Many officers had retired, and these offered their services. So did many old soldiers. And it was arranged that the new schools for the training of officers and soldiers should have the benefit of lessons taught at the war. The officers were keen on learning, so were the men whom they trained. As the war continued, it was possible to choose officers from all ranks in the army, and fitness for command was the chief ground for choice.

There were two features in the old British army—first a reverence for discipline. Smartness, attention to duty, were always specially insisted on. Then the basis of the army was the regiment. Just as in India men are proud of belonging to the Garhwalis or the Rajputs or whatever is their regiment's name, so in England. And now instead of forming countless new regiments with new names the old names were retained, and as each new battalion was formed, a new number would be given, perhaps the twenty-fourth battalion of the old Regiment. Many new armies were raised, to which the name of "Kitchener's" was given in the first two years of the war in honour of their Chief, Lord Kitchener of Khartum. Care was taken that all should learn the old ideas of discipline, and the Regimental

idea was carefully preserved. The new men were as proud of their Regiment as the old had been.

What an Army Learns.—They were taught in the first place discipline, drill and cleanliness.

Then they learned how to march, how to drill in "squad," how to use the rifle and bayonet. Physical training formed a large part of their course, and the new ways of war made learning to dig a very important part of the soldier's duty. It would take too long to explain the many steps by which the raw recruit became the trained soldier who defeated the veterans of Germany. The great thing to remember is that it was done; that the task was one of extraordinary difficulty, whether you look at it from the point of view of training or of equipment.

I have written about the training of the armies in England, for there was the chief burden of the war. Yet here in India we have seen raw recruits leave our villages. In nine months' time or a year we saw them smart and active soldiers. How was this possible? It was due, as with the English army, to discipline and to the strict training. Here too we have encouraged loyalty to the Regiment. It has been my lot to visit Regiment after Regiment of Indians and Gurkhas. I have been much struck with what Company and Regimental Officers are able to do for their men, and the happy relations between them. In the war with Turkey Indian troops proved more than equal to the Turks. Now the Turk is a stubborn fighter, and has perhaps more endurance than any other soldier in the East. Why was he beaten? One reason was that there was not the same happy relationship between him and his German Officers as between the Indian and his British Officers.

I have tried to give you some idea of the greatness of the problem which faced our Commanders, to accomplish in a few years what had taken Germany forty. Yet there are many other aspects of army arrangements which I have left untouched. There are supply and transport matters which in a big campaign are vital. You may have the men and the shells, and the food, but if they cannot reach the battlefield in time they are quite useless. I wonder, do we picture all the thought that was necessary—say in Mesopotamia—to get supplies up

four hundred miles? Then there is the cavalry with all the staff which it needs, not forgetting the Veterinary department. For all portions of the army there are hospitals, and these have their own staffs, their own transport and stores. The heroism which many of the Doctors and Orderlies displayed is beyond praise: but here too we must think of the organisation necessary. Not to be forgotten were the Labour Corps, who built roads and railways, and the many mechanics with the armies.

What we often fail to understand is the enormous amount of brain work that is involved. We read of the capture of Baghdad or of Damascus. We think our troops have been very brave—which is true—but now campaigns are so complex and armies so huge that every detail has to be worked out perhaps months beforehand by the "Staff", every obstacle foreseen, and an alternative plan devised in case anything goes wrong. If the soldier does the fighting, and the Officers do the leading—the 'brain' of the army is the Staff. In Mesopotamia for example there was "General Headquarters" (G. H. Q.). The General Commanding would be responsible for the whole area of operations, assisted by his staff. An army is further divided into divisions and brigades, and each of these would have its staff Officers—three in the division and two in the brigades. The business of "G. H. Q." on the one hand would be to have thorough information as to the enemy's plans and positions—on the other to keep in close touch with the various divisions, as the divisions do with brigades, and the brigades with the regiments.

All this necessitates an efficient system of telegraphs and telephones and "wireless". The burden of a campaign throws a heavy load on the postal authorities and tens of millions of letters went to the troops every year.

The Tanks.—With the progress of the war new inventions of every kind were made in every branch of the fighting. Submarines were improved; so were methods of detecting them and destroying them. New battleships were designed. Aeroplanes were improved upon in many ways, and will now be a regular means of travel. For battles on land weapons of many kinds were developed: and side by side with the work of destruction,

means of combating new inventions were discovered. But the greatest invention of all is to the credit of the English—the 'Tank,' and we have the authority of the Deputy Chief of the German Staff for saying that the Germans had no weapons with which to defeat the Tanks.

The Tanks, as they were called, originated in this way. The Germans were so strongly entrenched that many of our soldiers were killed in storming their entrenchments. What was wanted was a moving fort, armour-clad, which could move up to the German trenches. From these our men could fire in safety. The Tank supplied this need. The first Tanks were made with great secrecy, and when first the Germans saw them they were much terrified. Our soldiers called them Tanks. They could move over ditches and across great holes in the ground, and nothing seemed to stop them. Our Allies copied these Tanks, and soon we had them in thousands.

Conclusion.—In one chapter it is difficult to describe all the means by which our army is trained and organized, but perhaps enough has been said to show some of the difficulties and needs and the skilful way in which they were met.

II. HOW THE GERMANS FOUGHT.—Though the war is over, it is well for us to remember the great principles for which the Allies fought so bravely. The Germans began the war by the crime of invading and ravaging Belgium. They fought throughout with the same disregard of honour. War is always terrible, but the Germans succeeded in making it more terrible than anything this world has ever seen.

On the other hand, although they have been so cruel and pitiless, it must be admitted that they had a wonderful organisation, and that their soldiers fought very bravely. Their Generals were very skilful, and perhaps most notably in saving East Prussia and against Russia in 1915, and in the war against Roumania, they struck with great force.

Their principles, however, were wrong. Not contenting themselves with attempting to destroy the forces of the enemy, they tried to destroy their whole country, to crush them body and soul. That was their crime against Belgium: it was also their crime against France. In the end their policy defeated

itself. It secured for them no friends. Bulgaria, Turkey, and Austria, all fell away. The world united against them. On the other hand Belgium and Serbia remained faithful to the Allies, even when everything to them seemed lost.

"Frightfulness."—The word which the Germans themselves used to call their policy was "frightfulness," and they had the idea that if they were as cruel as possible they would frighten people into making peace with them.

On Land.—It was in Belgium that they first astonished the world by their atrocities, and their terrible destruction there and in Eastern France will be remembered for all time against them. Their most famous crime was the burning of the University of Louvain with its splendid building and library that had been the pride of Belgium. It is strange that an army which had come to spread "culture" should cause ruin wherever it went. In France the destruction of Rheims Cathedral, the Church where the Kings of France had been crowned, was very sad. But still worse than this was the way in which they treated the populations. Villages were burned, women and children were murdered—the children before their mothers' eyes, and many deeds were done of which we should be ashamed to read. Under the orders of the German Government, German soldiers were allowed to do what they liked, and once this spirit enters an army there is no stopping it. The houses of the villagers were burned, their furniture destroyed and their money stolen. Nor was the burning by chance. They brought all the materials with them. They poisoned wells in South Africa. They murdered prisoners, or let them die in neglect. They treacherously used the white flag, and then fired on their enemies who trusted them. They showed no respect for hospitals, and seemed to delight in attacking the wounded. They carried away whole populations to what was nothing but slavery. They introduced "poison gas" with all the torture that it has brought and delighted in using burning oil and other cruel instruments. They put women and children in front of their armies, so that their fathers, if they fired, might kill their own children: if they did not, they themselves would be killed by the Germans.

When they entered a town, they put inhabitants to death at



The Execution of Nurse Cavell. The deed was completed
by a German officer with his revolver

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random, and without appeal. Perhaps the crime which made the English most angry was the murder of Miss Edith Cavell in Brussels. She was a nurse of the sick who had devoted all her life to the service of mankind. In this war she had nursed many German and Belgian soldiers. She was accused of helping some Belgians to escape. She was allowed no fair trial, no advocate, no appeal. Neither her goodness, nor her sex, nor her services saved her. She was put to death pitilessly by men who had no mercy. They exacted huge sums of money from the conquered territory, and ravaged wherever they went. No words can tell the agony which the inhabitants suffered in the countries occupied by the Germans. When our armies occupied Palestine and Mesopotamia they brought deliverance. The German armies brought terror wherever they went.

All this was contrary to the laws and practices of war and to treaties which Germany herself had signed. It was due to the idea of the Germans that their State was above all law, that it was not bound by any agreement and could do what it liked. And when we hear it said that the Allies fought for law or for *Dharma* and that it was a war not for territory but for principles—the meaning is that the Germans recognized none, and if they had won, it would have been a victory for tyranny, faithlessness and hideous cruelty.

In the Air.—In the air they followed the same evil practices. Instead of attacking fortresses or armies they delighted in assaulting undefended towns and villages in the hope of terrifying the population. For hundreds of years men had been trying to make war more humane, and had endeavoured to spare those who were not fighting. The Germans cared for none of these things. An air-raid on London meant the murder of many innocent women and children. We have seen how the Allies punished the Germans for this. The Germans often dropped bombs on hospitals.

At Sea.—It was at sea, however, that they showed the greatest cruelty. For years naval wars had been fought, and the rules of war had been observed. Passengers were spared, and the true sailor is a gentleman.

Whether in their bombardments of English towns from the

sea, or in their submarine attacks on passengers and crews, the Germans showed no mercy, and as we have seen, even attempted to kill those escaping from the ships they had sunk, that no trace might be left.

We have all heard of the sinking of the *Lusitania* in honour of which German schoolboys had a holiday, and a special medal was struck. There was no concealment of German crimes, and the evidence of them is as strong from German records as from those kept by the British or the French.

It was not, however, the sinking of the *Lusitania* or hundreds of other ships that made the English most determined to end this reign of lawlessness. Perhaps what distressed them most was the death of Captain Fryatt. He had shown great bravery in defending his ship against a German submarine, and was accused of sinking one. If he had done so, it was a lawful act. The Germans took him prisoner and put him to death. It was a dangerous deed to flout the Mistress of the Seas, and for these and similar acts the Germans had a terrible reckoning to face.

At sea there were also many attacks on hospital ships contrary to all the rules of war. Mines were scattered in every direction in the hope of sinking ships. And, what was more serious for the Germans, they made no efforts to spare the boats of neutrals. As we have seen, this practice brought upon them the enmity of the United States; whilst the sinking of the *Lusitania* had a good deal to do with making Italy their enemy.

The German Conspiracies.—Equally astonishing was the German practice of trying to stir up conspiracies in almost every country. We know how they deceived the English before the war began. After it they endeavoured to stir up trouble in every part of the British Empire and particularly in India, in Ireland, in Egypt, and South Africa. These efforts were quickly brought to naught. The same course was pursued in France and Italy. In Russia it was only too successful. Wherever Germans were found, whether in China, Persia, or South America, there was intrigue.

In the United States of America, whilst the Ambassador was professing friendship, the Germans were trying to stir up a war in Mexico. One remarkable thing was that though for years

before the war and throughout the war the Germans spent crores of rupees in plots, the money they spent brought them very little return, and at the end they stood alone.

And now they have found that deceit does not pay, and that in the East or in the West men like honour and fair dealing.

How All This Arose.—It is a strange story from start to finish, a huge conspiracy against the liberties of mankind such as the world has not seen before. We were fighting not merely Germany and her allies but a vast criminal organization, that had its origin in the previous victories of Prussia, of which you learned at the beginning of this book. Not till Germany was utterly defeated, till Prussia was exposed and left confronted with her crimes and the misery she had brought on the world could any security for the future be obtained.

Why These Things should be Remembered.—It may be asked why these things should be remembered now that the war is over and victory has been won. Men and boys have short memories, and it is right that there should be warnings, for all to see, of the consequences of deceit and cruelty. Many of these arose from bad principles, belief that might is right, that those who have power can do what they like. For all of us there has been a truer lesson taught. It has been said that in all men there is both good and evil. Germany under the evil example of Prussia allowed the evil in her to get the upper hand, with terrible consequences for herself and for all mankind. In India we deplore the vices of Prussia. Let each one of us see in his own heart that the evil does not overcome the good, and avoid the fate of Prussia.

12. OUR COMMON CAUSE.—Now that the greatest war in history has been fought and won, the question naturally arises who contributed to the victory. Those who suffered most and triumphed most have been Belgium and Serbia.

Japan and the War.—To us in India the part taken by Japan is interesting. It must be remembered that this was not Japan's war, nor was her existence specially in danger. In a war with China twenty-four years ago, Germany had been among those who robbed Japan of the fruits of victory. She had not forgotten this. England had stood by

her then, and in her war with Russia it was England which prevented any other Power from attacking Japan. Her alliance with England had secured her position. The object of the alliance between England and Japan was to secure the peace of the Far East. When Germany declared war it was plain that she would endeavour to stir up war there and use her harbour in Kiao Chao as a base from which to trouble the whole East. To prevent this, and by the terms of her alliance, Japan declared war on Germany. Her task was to obtain possession of Kiao Chao. In a few months she had won this, as Germany could not use the seas because of the British fleet. Some Indian troops were present during the operations. For the rest, the chief assistance she gave was on the sea and in convoying vessels. In the last year of the war a Japanese expedition came with other Allies to Russia to help rescue the Czecho-Slovaks, of whom you will read later and to restore order in Siberia.

Japan gave valuable help in the war, and fulfilled her treaty obligations. On the other hand she did not put all her resources into the struggle, nor was she called upon to do so.

Other States.—Many of the countries of South and Central America also declared war on Germany. They were, however, distant from the struggle, and, as with the case of China and Siam, their coming into the war made little or no difference. They had neither the armies nor the navies by which to affect the result. But it all showed that the world disapproved of Germany's conduct and dreaded a German victory. So with Portugal. Her old glory had departed, but she took her side by the Allies and helped to defeat German dreams of Empire in Africa. From many of these countries the Germans had hoped for help and spent considerable sums to secure this, all uselessly.

From the coming of Roumania to the Allies' side great things were expected, because of its geographical position. But in the early portion of the war the Germans had little difficulty in disposing of the small countries near their borders, which they overwhelmed with strong forces, the Serbians alone being able to offer strong resistance.

The Roumanians attacked Austria, whilst they would have been better employed in defeating the Bulgarians, and the help

which they expected from Russia did not come.

So Roumania proved unexpectedly of little assistance, and indeed the Germans were very pleased that the Roumanians made war against them. In the long run of course it was to the advantage of the Roumanians that they sided with the Allies, as it meant that Roumania would become a large State, and all the Roumanians in Austria would be added to it. But for the moment it meant their ruin, as the Germans exacted very cruel terms from them. I wonder if you see how hard it was at the beginning of the war for little States like Belgium or Serbia to know what to do. The Belgians had no chance against the Germans. They refused to yield, and were crushed. So with the Serbians. They were driven utterly from their country, and yet they never faltered. And in the long run they were rewarded.

The Part of Italy and Russia.—Italy's "Story of the War" would take a book in itself, and the tale of how her armies climbed the snow-clad Alps, and in despite of one heavy defeat, saved Venice and the plains of Italy from the invader, makes glorious reading. It was left to Italy, in conjunction with a British army, to strike the final blow at the Austrian Empire, and three lakhs of prisoners in perhaps a single week shows how low Austria had sunk after the misfortunes of a long campaign. In the early days of the war the Russian Armies had fought valiantly, but their withdrawal injured our cause very seriously. "Better," said some, "an open enemy than an uncertain friend."

France and America.—We have already read of the heroic endurance of the French, of the dash and fortitude of the French soldier, and of the genius of Marshal Foch. In these days there is a tendency to forget what France has suffered and endured, and to give much of the credit to America that really belongs to France. It is the old story of the labourers coming at the end of the day, and receiving the same pay as those who had worked all day. It was France's glory to withstand the first onsets of the German hordes and to endure their presence on her soil till the day when they were finally overthrown. Four years from the outbreak of the war the American troops may be said to have come. They came too late to share in the agony of years: they came in time to complete and secure a final victory. If we

can fancy a tug of war lasting four years, each side being exhausted, and neither ready to give in, we can understand the help that a strong new team appearing on one side would give, and how welcome their assistance would be. Such was the part played by America, and the one regret of many of her citizens is that they were not by France's side at the first.

England's Part by Sea.—And what of our own Empire? Of the three nations to whom the world gives pride of place—where so many strove—by common consent England saved the world. Her fleet was the undoing of Germany. From the first day England controlled the seas. Germany made no effort with her battleships to defeat us, nor were her submarines of any avail in the long run. By means of her sea power, England supplied France with men and munitions. She had access to the world's markets. She was chiefly responsible for the transport of the Allied armies from one part of the world to another. Without the British fleet no Americans could have come to France. By our ships we were able to transport huge armies from the Dominions and India where we would. By their aid we conquered Germany's Colonies, and prevented the Germans from sending aid. The fleet was the foundation of the alliance, and when anyone says that England was unprepared for war, it is well to ask him, "What about the fleet?" Two Powers alone at the outset were prepared: Germany on land and England at sea.

England's Part on Land.—What was more astonishing, however, were the efforts the British Empire made on land. If we study the history of the war we shall see that whilst in France during the first two years the French had the chief burden, yet from July 1916 the work of the English, in French words, was 'gigantic.' In the first part of the war, our part at the Marne was glorious, but to the French must be given the palm of the victory. Ypres is a lasting memorial of our valour during the succeeding stages. At the Somme and the Ancre, Sir Douglas Haig's troops rained blow upon blow on those of Germany. The coming of the Americans did not take away from England's military glory; and America, France, and Germany alike, have paid tribute to the astonishing efficiency of

our troops. The Germans themselves ascribe their failure to Marshal Foch: to the British stand at Arras in March, 1918, which they say saved the French line: to the hurrying across the sea to France of almost every English soldier available, whether in England or Palestine: to the excellent railways which the Allies had built in France by which all were brought up quickly to the front: to the impossibility of contending with the Allied airmen and with the British Tanks, and to the increasing reinforcements from America: and they give great praise to the tenacity of the British soldier.

The campaign against Turkey was conducted by the British Empire practically alone, and it is India's glory that her troops had so large a share in this. In France, on the Italian front, in Belgium, in Mesopotamia, in Syria, in Palestine, in Bulgaria, in Russia, at Baku by the Caspian Sea, in Persia, at Aden, at the fall of Kiao Chao, in Siberia, in almost every part of Africa, in the isles of the South Seas, the King's troops fought. Nor were we without generals of genius, as Maude in Mesopotamia and Allenby in Palestine showed.

Our Airmen.—In the air the exploits of our airmen were acclaimed by friend and foe.

Munitions.—It was not, however, by fighting only on land and sea, and in the air, that our services to the cause of the Allies are to be measured. In the manufacture of guns and munitions, in securing food and money to our Allies—our efforts were simply immense. It has been the great age of British history, and we are proud of the part our King and country have taken, and of our Allies.

If We Had Lost.—Now that we have won it all seems easy, and it is possible to forget that for which we entered the struggle, and the many difficulties which had to be overcome. There is another side to the question: if we had lost, would all this sacrifice have been worth while? Serbia gave her answer when her armies were driven from the country. She stood by her Allies at a time when there was little hope. And at the beginning of the war when the Germans had swept over Belgium, Mr. Asquith gave England's answer: "Sooner than be a silent witness of the tragic triumph of force

over law, I would see this country of ours blotted out of the page of history." By this he meant, England went to war over Belgium. She risked her own destruction by so doing. And in Mr. Asquith's view it was better that England should be destroyed than stand by and see the destruction of the land she promised to protect. Happily both Belgium and England triumphed; but the glory of England is not merely in the share she took in securing victory, but in her loyalty to her friends from the first day; in the sacrifice of her thousands of dead; in the spirit of brotherliness she has displayed throughout, as when she placed much of her merchant fleet and coal at the disposal of her allies. She did nothing by halves.

Yet whilst we are proud, and rightly proud, of our Empire's share in the great struggle, it must be remembered that each allied nation did its part. Where all did so well, it is needless to make choice. The secret of the completeness of the Allied success in 1918, was that they played as one team, with Marshal Foch as their Captain. None strove for himself. Each gave credit to the others.

The 11th November, 1918, is rightly regarded as the day of victory; yet in a higher sense England won on the 4th of August, 1914, when she risked everything for the sake of her pledged word; Belgium won when she resisted the invader; France won by her four years' endurance; Serbia won when her armies were driven from their country and she refused to yield; America won when she resolved to throw away all her prejudices and take her part in the struggle.

The real test of a nation, as of an individual, is in adversity and in daring to do what is right regardless of what it costs and in enduring to the end.

13. INDIA'S CONCERN WITH THE WAR.—In India men often speak and write as if the Great War was no concern of theirs. Yet if we consider the German designs one by one we shall see that India was as much concerned as any other country.

As often before, I shall base much of this chapter on what has been stated in German books and newspapers, and much is of necessity repetition.

Belgium and France.—By attacking France through Belgium the Germans hoped that both countries would soon be at their mercy. "Then England and England's Empire will be ours." If this plan had succeeded India would have been unprotected.

Serbia.—In order that Germany and Austria might control the way to the East, it was most necessary for them to have possession of Serbia. The victory of Serbia in the war makes it very difficult for the Germans in future to attempt any further invasions of the East, and is greatly for the advantage of India.

Russia.—When the Russian Revolution broke out, it was the hope of Germany to send armies through Russia and the Caucasus towards India. She was prevented from doing so by the Allied victories in the West, and by the defeat of Bulgaria and Turkey.

Turkey.—Germany secured the friendship of Turkey, as her writers confessed, with the hope of controlling Persia and the Middle East, and thereafter of invading India and China.

East Africa.—Germany hoped for a Great Empire in Africa. From her possession of East Africa in particular she hoped to use her harbours for submarines by means of which she could be Mistress of the Indian Ocean. With large armies of East Africans she hoped one day to master most of Africa.

Of all Germany's Colonies, it was East Africa which was most dangerous to India. From it she was driven by English and Indian armies, supported, as on all the other fields of battle, by the British fleet.

At Sea.—Germany saw that she could never gain world mastery unless she defeated the British fleet. "Once this is accomplished, England and England's Empire and India will be ours." For twenty years she strove to equal the British fleet, but failed miserably and ingloriously.

The Submarines.—When there was no hope of defeating the British fleet in fair fight, the Germans tried treachery, and hoped by the submarines to "bring England to her knees." We have seen how this made the Americans also their enemies, and how the danger was defeated very largely by the courage and skill of English seamen, and the great efforts which the

Government and people of England made to overcome it.

Nevertheless both India and England were in great peril from this, and have now been happily delivered.

The Air.—From the air the Germans hoped by their Zeppelins to lay waste the cities of England and France and make them sue speedily for peace. Here too they were disappointed, but the danger was none the less real for a time, and we were saved by the Allied airmen, and, as always, by England's control of the sea.

The Holy War.—The Germans had many other plans for our destruction. One was that they should start a 'Holy War' in the East, and have India in a turmoil. The Indian armies in Mesopotamia and Palestine helped to thwart this evil design.

Afghanistan.—Another hope was that the Amir of Afghanistan would attack India. Agents of all kinds were sent from Germany to Afghanistan, but the late Amir remained neutral as our Government recommended.

Conspiracy.—Not content with war on land, on sea and under the sea, and in the air, Germany spent crores of rupees in trying both to stir up revolution in each country and to make dissensions between the Allies.

She had, as we have seen, great hopes of India: she tried to arrange a war between Mexico and the United States. In South America her agents were busy, as in Japan and China, and in every other country in the world. Only in Russia had she any success, and this profited her little, as before agreeing to an armistice the Allies insisted that the Germans should leave Russia and hand over all the money they had stolen. The only friends in the whole world she secured were Bulgaria and Turkey, and they abandoned her.

Now if you look over the list you will see that India was concerned with every one of these designs, and if any had succeeded we might have been at Germany's mercy.

The Rise in Prices.—The war caused a great rise in prices all the world over, and though India did not suffer so much from this as France or England, many things cost much more.

India's Part in the War.—But India had one more concern with the war—it was not merely that her King-Emperor was

engaged in a war with Germany and her allies ; it was the part which Indian Regiments took in the struggle. In France in the early days they were of great service. And when we speak of the Indian army we include not merely the Indian soldiers, but the Gurkhas—the splendid troops of our ally in Nepal—and the English soldiers who constitute a large part of the Indian army. Nor must we forget the British officers, who are devoted to their Regiments. Indeed one of the most pleasing features of the war is the harmony that has prevailed between English, Indian, and Gurkha officers, and the efforts all make on behalf of their men. In the British army—whether English or Indian—officers lead. In the German army they drive their men.

The Story of Kirpa Ram.—The story of Kirpa Ram is an example of this devotion between officers and men. In the battle of Loos in France in 1915, our armies gained much ground. The Germans however were much stronger than was expected and the Indian Regiments were ordered to retire. One Kirpa Ram—an orderly—saw his English officer wounded. He refused to leave him and he was last seen bringing water to his officer. His friends never expected to see him again, but both he and the officer whom he stayed behind to save were taken prisoners. He has received the Indian Order of Merit for his bravery, and now we hope that he has been released.

The Story of Private McLeod.—Another story illustrating this same spirit is told of Private McLeod, a British soldier in the Indian army. A Gurkha had been seriously wounded. The enemy were attacking with great violence. But Private McLeod thought nothing of his own safety, and in front of the enemy bandaged the wounds of the Gurkha.

Friendliness of Indian and English Soldiers.—Many stories are told of how friendly Indian and English soldiers were on the field of battle. They could not understand each other's language sometimes, but they could share cigarettes and the like. Thus when Indian sappers were returning from work in the cold, the British made them warm themselves at their fires.

A Gurkha's Bravery.—Many have heard the story of Gobar Singh Negi and of Naik Darwan Singh Negi of the Garhwalis.

The story of Rifleman Kulbir Thapa of the 2nd/3rd Gurkhas is specially remarkable. Kulbir found his way into the German trenches, behind which an English soldier (of the 2nd Leicesters) lay wounded. The little Gurkha refused to leave him and stayed beside him all day and night. Somehow the Germans did not see them. Next day there was a mist, and Kulbir was able to bring the English soldier through the German lines to a place of safety. He then returned and rescued two wounded soldiers. A third time he went back to carry home the wounded Englishman. It was now broad daylight, and the enemy saw him and tried to kill him. He persevered and brought all to safety.

This was not one deed of sacrifice but two days of sacrifice. Three times he risked his life for others. It is good to hear that he still lives.

The Story of Ayub Khan.—The doings of Naik Ayub Khan, a Baluchi, show quite a different kind of courage. The Naik had been sent out to see what was happening in the enemy's lines somewhere in France. He did not return, and his English officer wanted to go and search for him. The General would not allow this, as it might have meant the death of the gallant officer for no purpose. Two days later the Naik came back in safety. He had gone straight to the enemy's lines and called out "Mussalman". The Germans at first were going to shoot him, but some thought he might be wanting to join their side.

He told the Germans that about twenty Mussalmans in his regiment were ready to desert to them. They were very pleased and promised him 300 rupees if he brought them to the German side. He was very kindly treated by the Germans, who gave him food and warm clothes, and next day sent him back in safety. Meanwhile the Naik saw much inside the enemy's lines and when he returned to our trenches he gave a great deal of valuable information. He was promoted to be a Jamadar for his daring. He never took away his twenty friends to the Germans who had taken so much trouble for nothing.

The First Indian to Win the Victoria Cross.—Where so many did brave deeds, it is hard to make choice as to who should be mentioned. A special interest attaches to Sepoy

Khudadad Khan of the Baluchis who was the first Indian to win the Victoria Cross. All his friends died fighting to the last, and he was left by the enemy for dead, but he managed to crawl away from the field of battle where he had shown great bravery. Nor were those who died beside him forgotten, for all even after their death received honour.

The Dogras.—Among other troops from India, the Dogras showed astonishing endurance in the early days of the war. In one battle at Festubert near La Bassée in France they lost 401 out of 645 engaged. In an earlier battle, one Company of Dogras had only one survivor left. One Jamadar Kapur Singh, rather than surrender, shot himself with his last cartridge. Thus whether we look at the matter from the point of view of the enemy's designs, or consider the part which our valiant troops have taken, it is clear that India has been closely concerned with this war.

14. THE INDIAN TROOPS IN FRANCE.—Introduction. In the last chapter we had some instances of Indian bravery on the field of battle, and previously we have had some account of the part that India has taken in the war. We shall now look more particularly at some of the battles in France in which the Indian armies have fought. It will not be possible to give a detailed account of any of them, as this would take too long. All we can do is to try and know the names of the places and get some general idea of the results of our fighting. We shall read of many heroic deeds, and as was noted in the last chapter we must not forget that the Indian army in France included English and Gurkha troops as well as Indian, and all suffered and sacrificed alike. Many fought bravely of whose prowess no account is kept, as those who saw it are dead: from the long list of records of valour we can choose only a few.

Further, just as the English army in France at the beginning of the war formed a numerically small part of the Allied armies in France, because the French armies were much larger than the English, so the Indian army in France formed a part only of the British armies there. So when we speak of battles at Ypres or Loos and describe a little of what the Indian army was able to do, we must not forget that many other troops also were

fighting, and that our troops often took but a small part in the operations, if we look at them as a whole, though for those engaged it was serious enough.

The Arrival of the Indian Army.—When the Indian army arrived in France the position of the Allies was very grave. The Germans had been beaten at the Marne, but they were soon to make a very determined effort to reach Ypres and the Channel Ports. The British army was much smaller than the German forces opposed to it, and it had to fight with five times as many Germans, and sometimes with ten times as many. The arrival of reinforcements was therefore very welcome at a time when every additional man was of value. The weather was exceedingly wet and cold, and to troops from India very uncomfortable. Mud and water seemed everywhere, whilst the Germans were much better equipped than we with all the latest weapons of warfare.

The Lahore Division.—Of the two Divisions of the Indian Army Corps—Lahore Division and Meerut Division—the Lahore Division was the first to arrive on the field of battle, and round Ypres and Neuve Chapelle they soon had their time fully occupied. Sikhs and other troops from the Punjab as well as Bhopal Infantry, had quickly their share of fighting. A pleasing story is told of a Sikh who came upon a wounded German. The German wept bitterly, thinking his last hour had come. The Sikh patted him gently on the back and said, "Be not afraid." Another is told of a Sapper—Dalip Singh by name—who was attacked by twenty Germans and beat them off.

The Sappers and Miners did remarkably good work throughout the campaign, and that we were not many times overwhelmed by the Germans is not a little due to them and the devices which they made to keep off the enemy.

The Meerut Division.—The Meerut Division reached France on the 11th October, 1914, and after only eight days at Marseilles, the troops went in trains towards the field of battle, when everything had been made ready for the journey. The French used to welcome them at stations, and showed them the greatest kindness. There was some difficulty sometimes as the French could not understand the Indian language nor could the Indians

understand the French. However, each made signs and all were pleased. On the 29th October, 1914, they took their places in the trenches extending from Givenchy near La Bassée to past Neuve Chapalle.

The Trenches.—The trenches were full of water and the whole country was covered with mud as there had been heavy rain. The Gurkhas suffered greatly, as the trenches had been made for taller men than them, and they could not see anything. The Germans welcomed the Indian troops by making a strong attack on them at once. Many were killed, as they did not know how to take cover, and walked about the field of battle as if in their own village. They soon learned, however, to take shelter, and General Willcocks, whilst pleased that they were so brave, advised them to take cover as other soldiers did. It was a terrible experience for new comers; and the 8th Gurkhas perhaps in particular suffered, and most of the British officers were either killed or wounded. The Germans continued attacking, and again the Gurkhas suffered heavy losses, the 2nd Gurkhas losing seven British officers and four Gurkha officers in attacks made by them on the Germans. Not a single officer in the front trenches returned alive. The Gurkha attack, however, did much to save our line. About this time the Garhwalis made their first raid on the enemy, bringing back a number of prisoners.

The first month then found the Indian Corps in a very unfavourable position, outnumbered by the enemy and losing many of their officers. Many instances were given of heroism, and officers showed great devotion to their men, as did men to their officers in need.

Festubert.—It was on the 23rd November, 1914, at Festubert that the Germans made their first great attack on the Indian troops. In this action Naik Darwan Singh Negi gained his 'Victoria Cross' and the Garhwalis gained considerable fame. The Victoria Cross was also won by Lieutenant de Pass, a British officer, who not only showed great daring in going to the enemy's trenches, but rescued a wounded Indian sepoy belonging to the Bareilly Brigade, in broad daylight, in front of the enemy's guns. A few days later he was killed, greatly

mourned by his men, who worshipped him.

An example of the good-will which prevailed in the army was shown by some British or rather Scotch Privates of the Black Watch Regiment. They saw a Bareilly Regiment—the 58th—in some difficulty, and rushed in to help them capture an enemy trench.

Some day you must read a full account of the battle. The Germans at first occupied many of our trenches, but they were all driven out, the Gurkhas, Jats, Baluchis, and the 58th from Bareilly, and many more, all doing their share. The German attack had failed.

Givenchy.—It was now believed that the time had come for the Indian Corps in their turn to make a strong attack on the German lines, and this was begun on the night of the 18th December, at Givenchy. The night was cold, wet and stormy, and most of the troops knew nothing of the ground. We had sufficient neither of guns nor of ammunition, and the Indian army was in considerable peril till it was relieved by Sir Douglas Haig and the First British Division. Thereafter the Indian troops were sent for a few weeks' well-earned rest.

The Germans were very much stronger than had been anticipated and our losses were heavy. Yet if we failed at Givenchy, the Germans had failed equally at Festubert.

When the battle was over the General praised the Meerut Division for its efforts and in particular the Leicesters, an English Regiment, and the 3rd Gurkhas, for their gallant behaviour. The Lahore troops also fought bravely and lost heavily in this battle, and against both divisions the Germans behaved discreditably. At one place they held up their hands in token of surrender. We went forward. The Germans fired on our troops. At another place they disguised themselves as British soldiers. Even without treachery, in the darkness there was great confusion, British and Gurkhas and Germans all being mixed up at times.

The Bravery of Dost Muhammad.—A gallant British officer—Lieutenant Bruce—was killed by the enemy's deceitful conduct. They pretended to surrender and then fired. Havildar Dost Muhammad now took command of his company. He ordered

the men to retire. They replied that their dead officer Lieutenant Bruce had said "Hold on" and begged to be allowed to stay. All were killed but Dost Muhammad and another who succeeded in reaching a place of safety. Dost Muhammad received the Indian Order of Merit for his bravery.

The Germans now made a very powerful attack on our division, and though many deeds of bravery were done by British, Indian and Gurkha troops alike, the enemy was too strong.

Neuve Chapelle.—The next two months were spent in making preparations for new attacks in the spring and the troops did not have much time for rest. At Neuve Chapelle in March the Indian Corps first fought in a really big battle, and the Germans were now to experience for the first time the fury of a great attack on them. We began with a great bombardment of their lines, so severe that their front trenches were blotted out of existence. It was a great day for Garhwal. It was here that Gobar Singh Negi won his Victoria Cross, and Jamadar Sangram Singh Negi and Jamadar Pancham Singh Mahar won the Military Cross for most conspicuous bravery. One with his company captured a German officer, a gun and all who worked it. The other led a party in face of the enemy's fire and captured a machine-gun and many prisoners.

It is said that the first Regiment to reach Neuve Chapelle was the 3rd Gurkhas, a gallant Regiment, who afterwards gained great glory in Palestine. The 2nd and 9th Gurkhas also fought gallantly. Nothing could stop them.

Havildar Bahadur Thapa and his Gurkha friends marched into a house occupied by the Germans, and killed 16 of them, capturing two guns.

Not the least brave act was that of Naik Khan Zaman, a Lahore signaller, who remained for over three hours under heavy fire, repairing the cable wire which was often cut.

The Garhwalis lost heavily in British officers, and were short of ammunition. They were frequently attacked, but held on with great determination. It is unfortunate that we cannot recount all the deeds of Neuve Chapelle, even those of which a record has been kept. Of the English soldiers who served in the Garhwali Brigade perhaps the finest courage was shown

by Private Buckingham of the Leicester Regiment, who again and again went out under the heaviest fire and brought to safety men who would otherwise have perished. It is sad that he no longer lives. The friendship between Indian and English soldiers was very marked during this battle, and indeed once three British officers and a number of Gurkhas all risked their lives, and some lost them, in the hope of rescuing a wounded English soldier.

In the battle itself at first all had gone well, and the Germans were filled with panic: but the weather proved unfavourable and for several causes we were not able to follow up our first success. The effect on our troops was good, and the Germans lost heavily, perhaps twenty thousand men. British losses were close on 13,000, and amongst these the Indian Corps lost in killed, wounded and prisoners about 4,000. Some of you might like a more detailed account of the battle. On the left of the Indian line the Garhwali Brigade attacked, with troops from Dehra Dun on the right, and the Bareilly troops in support. The Garhwalis showed most reckless courage, though for a time the barbed wire in front of the German lines stopped some of them. The Gurkhas slipped under this in a wonderful way.

After the village of Neuve Chapelle had been captured, the Indians advanced to capture an important wood near at hand. Here the Dehra Dun Brigade did very good service, supported by the Jullunder Brigade. But they were unable to hold the wood. The troops spent the night on the ground they had won, all in the best of spirits.

On the second and third days the weather was misty, and the Germans were thus able to stop further advance, though they made little attempt to recapture the ground they had lost. Neuve Chapelle may be considered as a victory, though we did not succeed as much as we hoped. It was the first real opportunity the Indian troops had had, and by common consent they fought exceedingly well.

Ypres.—Of the second battle of Ypres, and India's part in it we have already read, but we cannot speak too often of this battle, as a thousand years hence the defence of Ypres will be

spoken of among the most wonderful episodes of the war and the proudest recollection of the Lahore Division will be that it took part in this. It will be remembered that after the Canadian troops had faced for two days the treacherous use of gas and saved the line from destruction they were relieved by Indian troops from Lahore.

Subadar Mir Dost, V. C., 55th Coke's Rifles.—Of these none had a more glorious record than Jamadar (now Subadar) Mir Dost. All his British officers had been killed or wounded. The Jamadar collected all the men he could find and held out in a trench all day. Many had been overcome with gas. In the evening he made search in the trenches round him and brought as many as possible back in safety. Afterwards he went back to help bring in eight wounded British and Indian officers, and was himself wounded in so doing. He well deserved his Victoria Cross.

The Heroism of Jamadar Mangal Singh.—Among those he rescued was Havildar (now Jamadar) Mangal Singh who had also been made unconscious by the gas. When Mangal Singh recovered, though he suffered very much, he went out time after time to bring in wounded men.

The General's Tribute.—The General Commanding the 2nd British Army sent a special note of thanks to the commander of the Lahore Division, thanking all for their services. In spite of many disadvantages they had prevented the enemy from advancing further and had ensured the safety of Ypres.

Festubert.—Festubert was to be the scene of still more fighting, and on the 9th of May the Dehra Dun Brigade attacked the Germans, but suffered very heavily. Many of their officers were shot. In the afternoon troops from Bareilly relieved those from Dehra Dun.

Corporal Finlay of the Black Watch showed great gallantry. He had been knocked down by the explosion of a shell. When he revived he led twelve men forward against the Germans. Of these ten were wounded. The other two he sent back to safety. He himself went forward under enemy fire to a wounded man and brought him back in the face of most terrible attacks from the enemy. For this he received the Victoria Cross.

The Dogras on this occasion showed especial bravery, and lost two-thirds of the battalion without flinching.

In the evening the Garhwali troops relieved those from Dehra Dun. The General pays a special tribute to the Bareilly troops, and to the gallantry of all the regiments engaged. They saw in front of them, he says, hundreds of men of the Dehra Dun Brigade lying out wounded and dead. They knew the enemy were unshaken. They understood that what had happened to the Dehra Dun Brigade would in all probability happen to them. But not a man faltered, and as they advanced over the parapet only to be shot down, British and Indian units alike did their level best to reach the enemy's line. If another attack had been ordered, they would have undertaken it in the same spirit.

A Second Attack by the Meerut Division.—On the 14th of May a second attack by the Meerut Division was undertaken, but the enemy seemed to know we were coming and almost as soon as our men got over the parapet, as the protection in front of the trenches is called, they were shot down, and the attack was abandoned after heavy loss.

A German attack was now expected, and one Company of the 15th Sikhs was in a very dangerous position and without communication. Lieutenant Smyth called for ten volunteers to come and take them ammunition. Four Punjabis and six Sikhs were chosen out of many who offered. It meant almost certain death to go, and all but two were killed. Lance Naik Mangal Singh of the 15th Sikhs and one Sepoy alone reached the trench. He was given the Indian Order of Merit and the others obtained, eight of them after their death, the Distinguished Conduct Medal. Lieutenant Smyth, who led the way, won the Victoria Cross.

In the battle as a whole we had failed, as the enemy was so strong: but nevertheless the enemy lost very heavily.

Loos.—In the next few months the Indian Corps had comparative rest, though many individual exploits were performed, of which not the least was the heroism of Subadar-Major Gurung of the 4th Gurkhas, who lost a leg in action and yet continued to direct his men.

In the battle of Loos in September the Indian Corps took part, though theirs was not the main part of the fighting.

The Meerut Division was again ordered to attack, with the Garhwali Brigade on the right and the Bareilly troops on the left. Wire partly stopped the Garhwalis, for the German trenches were always strongly protected, but the Bareilly troops swept through everything.

Sikhs and Highlanders from Scotland, among others, pressed forward and captured the second line of enemy trenches, but once again the enemy proved too strong, and it was necessary to fall back, which the troops did with great steadiness. It was in this battle that Kulbir Thapa of the 3rd Gurkhas won his Victoria Cross, and the Gurkhas again lost very heavily and again showed their gallantry.

The General writes: "The charge made by the 8th Gurkhas and 2nd Leicesters in the Garhwali Brigade and by the Black Watch and 69th Punjabis in the Bareilly Brigade could not have been finer. The one mistake was that sometimes they dashed on too quickly and so some were cut off from the other regiments and killed."

As we read the story of these battles we are often very sad. So many brave men gave their lives, and little progress seemed made. Yet when we consider how small our armies were and how mighty the German hosts were, the wonder is that they survived at all.

Of the battles in which they were engaged, in two they gained especial fame. At Neuve Chapelle, where they fought side by side with many other troops, they gained great commendation; whilst their proudest memory of the whole campaign is the part which the Lahore troops took in the defence of Ypres.

15. THE INDIAN ARMY—A MORE GENERAL VIEW.
In France.—In little over a year's time the Indian Corps in France had lost over 34,000 in killed, wounded and missing. Of these, over 4,500 were reported killed. 276 British officers had fallen, and 103 Indian. One reason why more British officers were killed was that the Germans specially aimed at them in the hope that in a strange land without British officers

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the Indian armies would be very confused.

The Indian armies had come to France when matters were very critical for the Allies, and the danger was great that the Germans would break through. They helped to stem the flood. Frenchmen, Englishmen, Indians, and Gurkhas, and troops from the Dominions beyond the sea, all fought and died side by side. They were always outnumbered both in men and guns. They were opposed by a cruel and crafty enemy. The climate was most unsuitable, and they had never been trained for warfare of this kind. Everything was strange, new and horrible. Yet their line never was broken and the Germans never passed.

The Indian Armies Leave France.—Their work in France was now done. The English and the French had now much bigger armies ready and an increasing supply of guns. The enemy was active in other fields, in Africa and in Asia, which were much nearer India and had climates more like that of India than a French winter.

Further, the losses of the Indian Corps in France were very great, and there were none to replace them. The new troops coming from India to take the place of the killed and wounded had not the training nor experience of those who had fallen. For every reason it was best for the Corps to go nearer home.

The King's Thanks.—The King-Emperor sent his son, the Prince of Wales, to thank the Indian army for its services: "British and Indian comrades-in-arms, yours has been a fellowship in toils and hardships, in courage and endurance often against great odds, in deeds nobly done and days of memorable conflict. You have worthily upheld the honour of the Empire and the great traditions of my army in India.

"I have followed your fortunes with the deepest interest and watched your gallant actions with pride and satisfaction. I mourn with you the loss of many gallant officers and men. Let it be your consolation, as it was their pride, that they truly gave their lives in a just cause for the honour of their Sovereign and the safety of my Empire. They died as gallant soldiers, and I shall ever hold their sacrifice in grateful remembrance.

"I pray God to bless and guard you, and to bring you back safely, when the final victory is won, each to his own home,

there to be welcomed with honour among his own people."

The Indian Army in Other Fields. East Africa.—In the conquest of East Africa, Germany's last colony, Indian troops, as we have seen, took an important part, and General Smuts gave them special praise. In this campaign English troops, Africans, Gurkhas, Kashmiris, Indians, all fought side by side, and whilst the Germans were much stronger at the beginning, in the end they were all driven from the colony.

The story I like best is of the Baluchis and the Rhodesians, as some English troops from Rhodesia in S. Africa were called.

Some Baluchis seemed hard pressed, and the Rhodesians were anxious to go to their assistance. This in the end was unnecessary, but next day a letter of thanks came from the Baluchi Regiment. Afterwards both Baluchis and Rhodesians entered an important German town side by side.

The campaign in East Africa was very difficult. There were many high mountains and thick jungles which stretched for hundreds of miles. Wild animals were more to be feared sometimes than the Germans, and even lions wandered about the forests. For miles there were no roads, and the only track found was that of an elephant, and often there was great scarcity of water. If a man was wounded in East Africa on the march it was very difficult to bring him in, as the jungle was almost impassable and sometimes there were no means of rescuing him. Then it was extraordinarily hard to move transport, and to get large bodies of troops to a given point in time.

It is impossible for us who have never seen the country to understand the hardships of the campaign. The northern part was the most difficult of all. Much of it is protected by high mountains, of which Kilimanjaro reaches a height of nearly 20,000 feet. There is only one gap by which an army can move, at the foot of Kilimanjaro. It is only five miles wide and to the side of it stretch the great mountains. In front are thick forests and swamps. The enemy had fortified this gap with great skill, and believed it to be quite impregnable. In March 1916 he was driven from it and retreated to the mountains. Then came the rains and all the country was covered with water. Bridges were washed away, and it was impossible to move for weeks.

By September the Germans were driven to the plains, and here were new difficulties. Instead of floods there was often no water at all. Everywhere there were mosquitoes and many troops died from malaria. There was a deadly tsetse fly which killed the animals. In some places the soil is rich black or red cotton soil. In wet weather it becomes mud and in dry weather it is dust, and very difficult in either case for transport. Then there was the fierce African sun, as bad as, if not worse than, that of India, and in the jungles all kinds of insects and plants from which our troops got many diseases. Of these the most deadly is blackwater fever. In France men fought against men and munitions. In Africa it was a fight with Nature, and often with no means of comfort or relief.

Think a moment what all this means. In the rains a countryside is flooded. Bridges are washed away. Carts stick in the mud. Supplies cannot reach the army and soldiers have little food. In the heat the transport animals are dragging along food or stores. The tsetse bites and many die. We can see that **with** the best arrangements in the world there must have been great hardships—and the more so as the enemy was exceedingly skilful and knew the country well.

"In the story of human endurance this campaign deserves a very special place," writes General Smuts, "and the heroes who went through it uncomplainingly are entitled to all recognition and reverence. Their Commander-in-Chief will remain eternally proud of them."

The Defeat of the Germans.—The natives were highly pleased when the British drove all the Germans out of the country. They had treated them with great cruelty during their brief dominion. In fact they looked upon them as slaves or things rather than as persons. In South West Africa, in the Cameroons and Togoland, their conduct was just the same.

When the Germans were driven out the natives sang round their watch-fires: "The twenty-five lashes are gone, are gone. The twenty-five lashes are gone." And the meaning is the Germans used to beat them with cruel lashes inflicted by a whip which cuts open the skin and flesh of the victim. Now the Germans had been driven out and they would be tortured no more.

The War with Turkey.—In the Cameroons, at Aden, at Kiao Chao and along the Frontier, Indian troops fought, but it was against Turkey that they were to find their chief antagonist, and side by side with English and Colonial troops to conquer the Turkish Empire.

In this field many were to win great fame, and after adversity, second only to what they had suffered in France, to have a large part in obtaining a complete triumph.

Gallipoli.—To an Englishman the saddest and yet the finest story of the war is the tale of Gallipoli. Indians and Gurkhas were there too and "Gurkha Bluff" commemorates for all time the valour of our Allies from Nepal.

A moving tale is told of the 14th Sikhs. On the 4th of June they were ordered to advance, some along and others through a ravine. They moved forward as one man in the morning sunlight. Two Companies reached the Turkish trenches. When they were relieved only sixteen remained alive. The others advanced through the ravine. They lost heavily, but some struggled on and reached the place to which they had been ordered to go. Forty-nine of them stayed there all night but they were too few to hold out against a host. Before the action the Regiment contained fifteen British officers and 574 men. At roll-call after the battle only three British officers and 138 men remained.

Mesopotamia.—The campaign against Turkey was to contain two tragedies, one at Gallipoli, and the other at Kut—both in large measure due to ignorance of the nature of the country where we were to fight. But these brought out the best qualities of the race—their endurance, their patience, and their courage in the midst of danger.

We hail the conquerors of Baghdad. Let us not forget the men who suffered for many months at Kut, nor yet the heroes who strove so hard to relieve them.

Palestine.—It was left, however, to our armies in Palestine to win the most striking victory of the war, and indeed one of the most wonderful victories in any war, almost without losing a man. The Turks were very strongly entrenched with their headquarters at Nablus, north of Jerusalem. To them the

position seemed well-nigh impregnable.

The British preparations were made for months beforehand and the greatest secrecy was shown. The Turks in their hills and in their rows of entrenchments felt secure for many months to come. Our airmen, however, had not been idle, and they knew exactly the strength of the Turkish positions.

When the moment came our General struck. The infantry with tremendous dash broke through the Turkish lines. The Turks immediately retreated. In the gap thus formed by the infantry our cavalry broke through and by wonderful skill got right behind the Turkish armies. Away to the far east we captured the chief crossings of the river Jordan. To the south was our army in force: to the west the sea; to their north our cavalry had gone, and in the east at the river Jordan the escape of the Turk was barred. Three Turkish armies were entrapped, and before the operations were over we had captured 100,000 men, and all at the expense of a few thousand in killed and wounded. Damascus, the second city in the Turkish Empire, was soon in our hands, and in a few weeks we had captured Aleppo and cut the railway between Constantinople and Baghdad.

It was more than the destruction of three Turkish armies at a trifling cost. This defeat meant the end of the Turkish Empire, and in six weeks' time the British fleet was at Constantinople and all the Turkish Empire was in the hands of the Allies.

The following account may give some idea of the part which Indians played in the battle. It was fought near the plain of Esdraelon where thousands of years back mighty empires contended for mastery.

The Cavalry.—The cavalry was divided into three main groups—Sherwood Yeomanry from England and Indian Imperial Service troops forming the first. They rode twenty miles that day, and after dusk started again, with the result that in the morning they had reached Nazareth, perhaps sixty miles in twenty-four hours. There they captured two thousand prisoners. It looks an easy journey on paper but the roads were so bad that their horses could not take the guns.

A second group was composed of English Yeomanry and Indian Lancers. These went more to the east and through a

very dangerous gap, which the enemy might easily have held, if they had tried : but our troops were too swift for them. They took several thousand prisoners and much booty, besides capturing two railway trains, and preventing many Turks from escaping. By the following day they had reached Beisan and thus blocked the way north.

The third group consisted chiefly of Australians and New Zealanders. These charged the Turks with their swords and also took many thousand prisoners. A fourth group of Australian Cavalry rode straight for Nablus. They were warmly welcomed by the inhabitants, and even the Turkish wounded who had been left behind cheered them. These troops prevented the escape of the Turkish armies along the Nablus road.

It was a great day for the horsemen of Australia, India and England. What was specially noteworthy was the welcome given to the conquering troops. Weeks later when we reached Damascus the whole city was illuminated at night.

The Airmen.—Meanwhile the airmen were dropping bombs and blocking all the roads. They made them quite impassable. Guns, ammunition and waggons were left in all directions. One airman brought about the surrender of two thousand Turks. He signalled that he would drop bombs if they did not yield. They surrendered.

The Infantry.—All this time the infantry, who had made the exploits of the cavalry possible, had not been idle.

To the west Indian and London troops captured Tulkeram. They were shelled by Turkish batteries, but never faltered. In another part of the field east of the Nablus road troops from Wales and India reached all the places at which they were aiming with great precision, marching ten miles over very difficult country. In some places Indian troops fought beside troops from Ireland, in others beside Scotch soldiers. Our Gurkha Allies, fighting among hills that reminded them of home, showed rare courage.

What happened to the Turks was this. Our infantry and artillery drove them out of their positions and into the hands of the cavalry whilst overhead our tireless airmen did much to complete the rout. A small force of French troops also took an

active part, so the Allies, England, India, the Dominions, Scotland, Ireland and Wales were all represented, whilst Australian and New Zealand cavalry took a large share in the fighting.

India, however, provided most of the troops, and many of these were newly trained recruits, who fought splendidly.

The King's Congratulations.—The King-Emperor sent his appreciation of India's services "at the brilliant victory in Palestine in which the Indian army played so prominent a part."

The Genius of General Allenby.—A victory of this kind demanded more than gallantry, and we should remember the name of the British General who thought out each move in advance and planned perhaps the most perfect piece of work in the whole war—if we judge it by its swiftness, its small cost, the wonderful way each part of the army performed its functions, and lastly the consequences. His name is General Allenby.

If we are asked, then, what part troops from India and Nepal have played in this war we can reply that they served in France at a time when every man counted. If they did not defeat the Germans in the hour of their strength, they helped to prevent the Germans from defeating us. They took a large part in the conquest of Germany's last and most important colony—East Africa. They shared in the suffering at Gallipoli and Kut. Our triumphs in Mesopotamia and Palestine, which resulted in the defeat of the Turkish Empire, were in no small measure the work of Indian armies.

Nazareth and Kut.—The Palestine campaign was to show in a remarkable way the difference between English and German ideas of leadership. The German Commander-in-Chief, von Sanders, the moment he heard of the defeat of the Turkish troops, fled hastily and abandoned them to their fate, and when our cavalry reached Nazareth, twenty-four hours after the victory began, they found he had departed the night before. It was otherwise with the British General Townshend in Kut, two years before. He could easily have escaped by aeroplane, but the idea of abandoning his men never occurred to him, nor to any other British officer. It was this comradeship between British and Indian officers and men whether in triumph or defeat that more than anything made our victory overwhelming. British

officers pay tributes to the devotion of their men. The Indian soldier on his part acknowledges what he owes to the leadership of his officer.

Thus Germany missed the secret of Empire. In the days of her triumph she overawed men by force or bribes. In the day of defeat none stood by her.

16. THE SOUL OF FRANCE.—Mistaken Ideas. In this war many prophecies have been falsified, and not the least have been the mistaken views of both friend and foe as to the character of the French.

Before the war, to the German, mindful of his victories over France in 1870 and relying on the reports of his spies, France was weak, her government was corrupt, and her armies were unprepared. If he advanced through Belgium, Paris and France were open to the invader and the war would speedily end in a German victory. The Englishman had a different view. He thought that the French and Russian armies were equal to the German and Austrian and that the British Fleet and our small army would make the difference between victory and defeat. He believed that if the French won at the beginning, all would go well, but he had doubts as to whether the Frenchmen could endure a long war. His idea of the Frenchman was that he was a gay and happy character, dashing as a soldier when all went well, but without the strength to win in the face of adversity.

The centre of commerce and progress in Europe was London. The centre of art and pleasure and gaiety was believed to be Paris, and Paris seemed no likely place for display of steadfast courage.

The History of France.—Though for fifteen years we have been close friends of the French, we had fought them for four hundred years. We had defeated them in many battles, of which Crecy and Agincourt were the most famous; we had never conquered them. In the eighteenth century we had striven with France for the mastery of India and of America. We had won. In later years when Napoleon, the great French soldier, had striven after world-dominion we had foiled him, but France remained unconquered as far as the spirit of her

people was concerned. Again in 1870 the Germans came and thought they had crushed the French by the severity of their terms. France still lived.

How France Faced the Germans in this War.—Now in this chapter it will not be possible to describe at length the deeds of heroism of the French armies, much less to estimate the part which France has played in the war. Our object will be rather to show how France met the calamity which so suddenly came upon her, and how she disappointed her foes and surprised her friends. When the Germans invaded France by way of Belgium it soon became evident that, single-handed, France was much weaker than Germany.

The First Battle of the Marne.—In less than a month the Germans were outside Paris. The French Government fled to Bordeaux and Paris seemed left alone. You will remember how Frenchmen now fought as perhaps men never fought before, with what skill the French Generals planned the first defeat of Germany at the Marne. This really decided the issue of the war, but there were long years of suffering before the French. When the Germans broke through Belgium they occupied the fairest parts of Eastern France, and though they had been driven from the Marne, they were still only sixty miles from Paris and like cruel vampires were slowly and steadily draining away what seemed the life-blood of France.

The Drain on France.—The population of France was much smaller than that of Germany, and the German lines extended for several hundred miles across France. We have read of what the British endured. I wonder, can we realize what it meant to France to have a German army almost at the very gates of her Capital for four dreary winters, as far from Paris as Rae Bareilly is from Lucknow? The French have never published their losses. They cannot be far short of four million men in killed, wounded and missing. Yet France never faltered. She knew that death was better than a Prussian victory.

Verdun.—To the French their greatest memory of triumph is the defence of Verdun. For 140 days the Germans assaulted it with all their strength, beginning with an attack by almost a quarter of a million men. The French according to their

custom retreated when retreat was necessary, and then when they saw their opportunity, they struck. Their watch-word was, "They shall not pass," and the Germans never did pass the fort of Verdun. "There is no rest for us French so long as the barbarous enemy treads the sacred soil of our fatherland. There is no rest for the world till the monster of Prussian militarism has been laid low," wrote General Mangin.

Once again the spirit of France prevailed, and the German hosts were vanquished; and it is the unconquerable soul and endurance of the French that makes the world remember Verdun.

The Second Battle of the Marne.—Years rolled on. At the Somme and the Ancre the British gained great victories, but the Germans were still undefeated. Russia dropped out of the war, and once again the Germans approached Paris. Once again they crossed the Marne. In Germany the joy was great. Now their troops would enter the coveted city of Paris, and the labour of four years would not be in vain. The Germans struck again with all their might, much as they had done at the first battle of the Marne, and French resistance seemed crushed. The French on their part acted as they did before. They retreated when retreat was wise, they struck back when they had the opportunity, and once again they had large armies in reserve. The English sent every possible soldier, and those Americans who had reached France served either with the English or the French. Once again the Germans were driven back from Paris, and this time for ever. The genius of France had triumphed. The German machine may have been stronger at the outset, but all the generals of Germany never succeeded in defeating General Foch.

One can look at the war from many aspects, and the historians may consider it as a duel between the Anglo-Saxon and the German, in which, thanks to the British fleet and the greater resources of the Anglo-Saxon, the German lost. To the German, England has been the chief enemy. Looking at the war from a purely military point of view, however, and as between France and Germany, it was the mind of France which worsted the Germans. To the German the problem was simple. "Crush France and the war is won." The French

had the task of parrying the blows of a stronger antagonist till their hour had come. To succeed it was essential that the country should remain united, that it should be prepared to lose territory without losing heart: that it should stand fast against all the wiles of the enemy. France stood the test and prevailed. If she had surrendered, the British could have carried on the war at sea for years and their Empire would have remained intact, whilst they had acquired the German colonies. But Germany would have remained mistress of Europe and much of Asia, and there would have been a long and disastrous war, perhaps lasting twenty years.

It was the endurance of France that made it possible for millions of English soldiers, and at the last American soldiers, to come to her side and thus save Europe and India.

Before the war all men knew of the charm and wit of the French, of their courtesy, of the brilliancy of their thinkers and writers, and of the dash of their soldiers. Now they know that behind all this charm there is a strength of purpose which no shock of invading armies, no brutality of the enemy, no treachery could weaken. In Paris there has long been a Society known by the name of the "Immortals." To that may now be added the records of her armies which will never die. Nor should we forget the dignity and heroism of the women of France whose faith has never wavered, the wonderful love of country which inspired the whole people in the day of sorrow and calamity. A young French airman best expressed the feeling of his countrymen: "One day the Hun¹ may get us. But we have offered our lives to our country in advance and are no more troubled." Vive la France!

17. THE GAINS AND LOSSES OF THE WAR.—Now that the war is over, many speak and write as if there would be a new golden age after the defeat of Germany.

It would be better to look at it in this way. Suppose some villages have been attacked by dacoits who were very thoroughly

¹ The Hun is one name by which the Germans were known. In a speech to his troops as far back as 1900 the late German Emperor told them to emulate the Hun. In the war they surpassed the Hun in cruelty, and the name was adopted for the German armies by the Allies.

organised, and have been planning this attack for years. The villagers combine together. Other villagers join them, and the dacoits in their turn attack still more villages, and get other friends to help them in this wicked work. In the end, by the united efforts of the villagers who were attacked, the dacoits and their friends are utterly defeated. At first the villagers would be very thankful to God for their deliverance and would pray that no more dacoits would attack them. Then they look round the village. One sees his house burned down: another has lost all his sons and his property: a third has lost his little children and his wife. Many will be very sad.

So in the Great War, Victory will never bring back the dead. The old happy family life of many in England and in India, in France, in Belgium and in Serbia—and in every country that has suffered from the war—has gone never to return. In every country prices have risen. It will be long before they fall again. Not in one day can the world recover from a shock so great as this. The evils which this awful war has brought cannot be wiped out in our time. In every street of England and France there will be cripples, men without arms or legs, or men who will never again see the light of day. In hospitals there are many who have lost their reason. In many homes there are vacant places which never can be filled. No victory can bring back her only son to the widowed mother who has lost him.

Yet the dead did not die in vain. Though they did not live to see the triumph, they helped to secure it.

The records of deeds done will not soon be forgotten. We read of the heroism of ancient times. No warriors of old had to endure for months and months the horrors of modern shot and shell in cold and rain and snow or under blazing sun. At sea the strain must have been terrible. In the air men fought in a new element with all the chivalry and daring of the Knights of old.

Not less remarkable was the endurance and the willingness to suffer hardship which was shown in particular by the countries which were exposed to the fury of the enemy's attacks. The war has revealed a spirit of sacrifice, of brotherliness, of

high purpose, which was not believed to be in existence before. A large portion of the human race was tested and tried as never before in any period of the world's history, and it stood the test. Once again it was proved that there were such qualities as honour and faith and loyalty: that not merely individuals but whole nations were ready to submit to torture and death rather than submit to dishonour.

In a word, when we scan the lists of dead, who are to be counted in millions, the enormous expenditure in money, the energy which has gone to the manufacture of weapons of destruction which might have been so well employed in improving the lot of the people in each country afflicted, the sufferings caused everywhere by the rise of prices—the loss caused by this wicked war can never be made good.

On the other hand, if we look at life not from the point of view of comfort, and judge men and women by their courage and their readiness to sacrifice—this war has had good results amid much evil.

It may be compared to the fire of London over 250 years ago. A great part of the city was burned down, but on its ruins a fairer city was built. This was not much comfort to those who lost their property at the time, and perhaps died homeless: but it was better for those who came after.

Perhaps Serbia will be the best example of both the evils and the possible advantages of the war. She has lost half her male population, and scarcely a building in all Serbia, was left standing. Now there will be a greater Serbia, and the Serbians will have an opportunity of becoming an enlightened people. But the cost is that half of the present generation have perished.

France will now have security. For over forty years there has been fear of another German invasion. Now this fear has gone, it is hoped, for ever.

In Europe and America men are working to establish what is called a League of Nations. It is believed that this war has shown to all men that war is an evil way of settling disputes. It was necessary on this occasion, as otherwise Germany would have conquered the world. But now that Germany has been defeated, the object is to try and get all nations to see the

advantages of peace. The thought is a great one, but it will fail unless the Powers of the world agree to combine against any country which breaks the peace of the world and keep their agreement. To secure this they must still have armies and navies for protection against evil doers, and to punish any State which tries to make war.

Another consequence of the war is that in almost every country it has stirred men's thoughts. Empires and Kingdoms have been swept away. It is believed that there will be a better state of society. The example of Russia is not very hopeful, and there will be no real improvement unless the new Governments which are now being set up rest on law and on justice. Much of Europe has been freed from tyranny. It must now face another danger—that of anarchy. Famine, disease, and unrest, these follow in the wake of unsuccessful wars: and behind comes the spectre of revolution. The future will tell whether the changes now coming are for good. No change of Government in itself can make the lot of people better. Their future depends on themselves, and whether their new rulers have wisdom.

These things, however, are for the future. For the moment we may be thankful that an attempt to impose a military tyranny on the world has been overthrown. Justice and right have won. This in itself is no small gain. Ancient wrongs have been righted. The Kingdom of Poland, which was swept away well nigh 150 years ago by a disgraceful agreement between Prussia, Austria and Russia—will be restored, and a new Poland will rise. France has already recovered her lost provinces—Alsace and Lorraine—which were torn from her little more than forty years ago. There will be a new Belgium, a greater Serbia. The Roumanian peoples formerly divided, will have a ruler of their own. Instead of being ground down by Austrians and Hungarians alike, the Czecho-Slavs will have a *Raj* of their own. Italy will be united. In Turkey—the Turks will have their own rule. The Arabs, the Syrians, and Armenians will be freed. In the Balkans some effort will be made to do justice to each of the warring peoples who dwell in that peninsula and to allow them to develop in their own way—free from the wiles of Germany and Austria who strove to keep them at war.

The world is free from the menace of Germany. There will be no danger now of a German Empire extending over the East and the West, and the threats of forty years which have disturbed Europe have been banished. In the same way the dangers from Austria and Turkey, the accomplices of Germany, have been removed.

The little nations which either have been blotted out in the past by these Empires, or would have been blotted out if they had won now, have been preserved.

In Africa also the inhabitants have security for the future, and henceforward they will not be exploited to gratify the ambitions of any power whatsoever.

Germany has lost her colonies both in Africa and the Pacific, and whatever be the subsequent fate of them, this means the end of an evil system.

One of the most wonderful sights in the war was the way in which all the peoples of the British Empire flocked of their own accord to the King-Emperor's bannner—Canada, Australia, Africa, and India, Newfoundland and New Zealand, all were there. With the entry of the United States into the war, the English-speaking world became as one.

India too has been saved from invasion, and our troops both in Mesopotamia and Palestine not only did their share in defending India, but had a very large part in the conquest of the Turkish Empire.

Greatest of all, right has been re-established and vindicated. Treachery and faithlessness have been punished, and there still remains honour among men.

18. THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACE.—We have read some of the conditions of the Armistice made with Germany and her allies. In each case they amounted to complete surrender. More difficult was the arranging of terms of a peace settlement after the war. So much suffering had been caused by this war that it was the desire of the allies to make such arrangements as would take away causes for war in future, as far as possible.

Changes of Territory in Europe. (a) Affecting Germany.—Germany was to leave Belgium and restore it. She was to give up Alsace and Lorraine, the provinces which she had

snatched from France over forty years ago.

Poland, which had been divided over one hundred years ago between Prussia, Austria and Russia, was once again to be an independent State.

The Germans were to leave both Russia and Roumania, and the unjust treaties which they had made with them were to be cancelled.

(b) Austria-Hungary.—The Austrian Empire had now completely broken up. As we have seen, it had been held together by an arrangement between Hungarians and Austrians, by which they divided powers and kept down other peoples in the Empire—particularly the Southern Slavs, the Roumanians, and the Czechs and their kinsmen the Slovaks.

Now the position of Austria-Hungary is very puzzling unless we understand that till now it has contained many different peoples, and that they have only been held together by keeping half of them in bondage. It was a very difficult Empire for any one to manage, but the mistake of Austria and Hungary was that they tried to keep their own power at the expense of these other peoples.

The consequence was that when the war came, neither Czechs nor Slavs fought loyally for Austria. The Slavs really supported the Serbians, who were of the same race.

The Czecho-Slovaks.—The centre of the Czecho-Slovaks lies in Bohemia with their capital at Prague. They have had many great men among them in the past, and once there was a Kingdom of Bohemia. They have produced great musicians and artists and are a most industrious people.

In this war many thousands of them surrendered to the Russians and were taken prisoners to Siberia. When Russia made peace with Germany, these Czecho-Slovaks, who had now been released, refused to have peace, and carried on war with Germany from Siberia. Japanese, Americans and English all came to their help in Siberia, whilst the English occupied Archangel and the Murman Coast, to prevent either Bolsheviks, as the new rulers of Russia were called, or Germans from gaining control there. Indirectly this helped the Czecho-Slovaks. England recognized them as a separate State, while America and

the Allies refused to make peace with Austria save on condition that the Czecho-Slovaks as well as other peoples in Austria had liberty.

The story of their war in Siberia, thousands of miles from home, makes strange reading, but we must not forget that their home was in Bohemia and their capital Prague.

The Italians in Austria.—Many Italians in Austria had also lived under Austrian rule for many years, particularly round Trieste. Austria and Italy had long been hostile to each other because of the way the Austrians oppressed the Italians in Austria. It is true that before the war Italy was the ally of Austria and Germany. This, however, was only for defensive purposes. She refused to aid them in their attack on Serbia, and later declared war for the following reasons. Her people naturally sided with the French as they were of the same race. They also owed much to the British Government. They disliked the idea of Germany and Austria controlling the world. They said, "If they win, they will control us also." They were very angry at the conduct of the Germans at sea, particularly at the sinking of the *Lusitania*. Lastly they hoped to win back Trieste, and the Italian part of Austria. The frontier had been so arranged in the past that the Austrians controlled Italy, and it was easy for them to invade from the Alps the plains of Italy.

With a view to avoiding future trouble, the Allies decided that the Italian part of Austria must now be joined to Italy, and before the armistice was signed this was agreed upon.

Roumanians and Slavs.—As we have seen, in Austria there were many discontented and oppressed Roumanians and Slavs. The policy of the Allies was that the Roumanians in Austria should be allowed to join the kingdom of Roumania. The Southern Slavs would be permitted to form a kingdom of their own, or join their kinsmen, the Serbians.

Thus great changes will be brought about in what once was Austria-Hungary. It has taken many months to settle the new boundaries, and perhaps for years there will be unrest in Europe. But with the defeat of Austria, no power on earth could keep all these different peoples together.

The Balkans.—It is the desire of the Allies that each State in the Balkans should preserve its independence, and the boundaries be fixed in accordance with the nationality of the peoples. Serbia is to have access to the sea.

The most troublesome problem of all will be to settle to whom Macedonia belongs, as Serbia, Greece and Bulgaria all have claims and the inhabitants themselves do not know to whom they should belong.

Both in Austria and the Balkans the Allies wish to depart from the evil policy of Germany and Austria—which was to keep these little peoples divided and quarrelling, and to overcome the Slavs.

Turkey.—What is really Turkish must remain Turkish: but the races oppressed by the Turks—Arabs, Syrians, Armenians and the rest—shall be freed. The Dardanelles will be an open highway for ships and neither Germany nor any other Power will be able to close it against the world.

German Colonies.—The future of these will be decided according to the interests of the native populations. From all we know, it does not seem that they will be allowed to go back to Germany which has misruled them for so long.

How to Prevent Wars.—(a) In future to prevent Kings and their Ministers from hatching wars all State transactions must be open. Secret treaties must be published. The reason for this is that the present terrible war was brought about by secret arrangements made between Germany and Austria.

(b) Peaceable nations should be allowed to trade with each other on equal terms. Rivalry in trade has often been a cause of wars, and it is hoped to diminish this.

(c) For forty years Germany has been arming, and other countries on the Continent of Europe have had to do the same. It is proposed that all should agree to limit their armies and navies to what is necessary for protection.

How Will These Agreements be Enforced?—Many agreements, however, have been made in past years, and they have not lasted. Suppose either a King or a people wishes at some future time to conquer the world, what is to prevent them if other nations are partially disarmed? The idea is that there should

be a League of Nations formed not to promote wars but to enforce peace. If any country disturbs the peace of the world, the other nations will combine against it.

The chief hope of such a League lies in this, that all nations are weary of war, and after the failure of Germany they are coming to see that war is not the best way of settling disputes, though in this case it was the only way if Germany was not to conquer the world.

But even with a League of Nations established for this purpose there will still be armies and navies for defence and to prevent any one nation from disturbing the peace of the world.

Thus in India it will still be necessary to have armies on the Frontier as long as there are war-like tribes there ready to attack India when they get an opportunity.

In the countries till lately our enemies, there is much disorder and also in Russia, and as Eastern Europe and much of Asia is full of unrest, there will still be need of armies to restore order and keep the peace. As has been said before, after unsuccessful wars comes confusion and anarchy, and it will take much wisdom to prevent this from spreading. Four Empires have broken up. It will take time to establish settled government again.

The "Fourteen Points."—Now what has been written above is a short account of what was suggested as the basis of future peace. Proposals were put forward by the President of the United States, in what were called the "Fourteen Points," in a speech which he delivered on the 8th of January 1918. Thirteen of these have been noted here and all of these have been accepted by the Allies. The fourteenth proposal they could not accept. It was that the seas should be "free" both in peace and in war. The Germans were very anxious that this should be agreed upon. In peace it is true the seas are "free," that is, ships can sail without fear of attack. In war time the result of the proposal to England would be that she would be unable to stop supplies going to an enemy. Now in this war, if this had been the case, the war might have lasted twenty years, as Germany would have got all the materials for carrying on a war that she wanted. The word is puzzling. The English

wish the seas to be "free" in war in this way, that they think boats should be able to sail without danger to passengers. However, now that the Germans have surrendered all their submarines, there is not likely to be any dispute on this point. The Allies added one important term to the American proposals, all of which indeed had been made in Europe, but President Wilson was the first to put them together in short form.

Germany Must Pay.—The addition was that Germany must pay for the damage she has done by sea, land and air.

Now how was this to be brought about, and how were the Allies to secure that the map of the world should be arranged in such a way as to secure good government to all?

By the terms of the armistice made with Germany, Austria, Turkey, and Bulgaria they obtained control of each of these countries. None was in a position to make any resistance. The difficulties were many and great. In a large part of the world there was hunger and danger of famine. In the defeated Empires there was and is grave unrest, whilst the Germans have so behaved in this war that it is difficult to have friendly relations with them when Peace is declared.

The discussions have lasted for a long time, but in the Peace Terms with Germany which were recently announced, the main objects of the Allies are:—(a) that as far as possible Germany should pay for the wrongs she has done in this war, (b) that she should be prevented from committing further crimes in future, (c) that the settlement arrived at should remove causes for future wars, (d) that where there is a change of rule the interest of the people governed should be the first concern, (e) that the League of Nations should at once be established.

The way is not easy, and victory brings as many problems as war itself. But it is the hope of the Allies and the United States that they will be able to do justly. More than this they cannot attempt. If the Germans see the error of their ways and settle down to a peaceful and honourable life, there is some hope. If they do not, then the Allies will have to maintain large Armies and Navies to prevent any further outbreaks.

So with other nations. If the new nations which will now be established are wisely governed, then there is hope: but if

anarchy prevails among them their last state will be worse than the first.

For the conquerors themselves there is a long task ahead. They have won a great victory at a heavy price: but to calm in a few months the storms that a World-War has provoked is beyond them. What is wanted is more than the wisdom of statesmen. It is the support in each allied country of all who value law and order, and who are determined that our dead should not have died in vain.

19.—SOME CONTRASTS.—The 4th of August, 1914. On the 4th of August, 1914, England sent word to Germany that if she did not keep her word to Belgium, England would declare war on Germany. An answer was requested before midnight. At twelve o'clock that night the clock struck as usual. Hundreds of thousands were thronging the streets of London. It was known that no answer had come, and from that vast concourse of men and women rose a cheer the like of which had never been heard in London. England had been true. As the bell tolled twelve, to those who heard it, it seemed like the pronouncement of Fate. It was the hour of Destiny for England, it was the hour of Doom for Germany. That night and the next, thousands assembled outside the King's palace, and it was plain to all men from their shouts of loyalty that the King and his people were one.

“England in that great fight to which you go
Because where honour calls you, go you must,
Enough, whatever comes, at least to know
You have your quarrel just.”

A few days after a hush came over the city of London. Tidings had come of the death at sea by the treachery of the enemy of our first victims in the war, and it was thought that demonstrations were unfitting. Later the city was darkened at night, and for years there was a strange hush over London, and even when victories came the citizens were unmoved. It was felt that the issue was too serious for merriment.

The 4th of August, 1914, in Berlin.—On that same 4th of August, in Berlin, the German Chancellor announced that Germany was committing a wrong on Belgium. To crush France it

was thought better to risk England's enmity than to leave Belgium alone. There were strange scenes of joy and frenzy in Berlin. Here too the crowds shouted in front of the Emperor's palace. They hoped for a speedy victory, and this seemed Germany's hour. For months the city was bedecked with flags and the citizens were almost beside themselves with joy as they thought of those great days and of the tributes which they would take from the conquered countries.

Months went on and in spite of victories the end of the war seemed no nearer. Against the English they raged with special fury. "God punish England," was their prayer. Hymns of hate were composed. "We have one foe and one alone—England."

As they looked at the map they saw Belgium and much of France in their hands. In the East in the second year of the war they boasted the destruction of Serbia. From Berlin to Baghdad they had one firm unbroken line. The defeat of Roumania and the collapse of Russia followed. Everywhere there were signs of victory, if only the Allies would admit the facts and frankly confess they had failed.

Those who knew however had less confidence. Outside was the British fleet which silently and remorselessly was preventing supplies from reaching Germany. Of what consequence was the overrunning of Serbia or Belgium if the citizens of Germany were almost starving, and strive as they would, could never enjoy a single full meal? On land they could never pass the French and the English lines, and before their eyes the weaker armies of France and the little force of England were growing every day.

To the countries they conquered they behaved with growing insolence and cruelty, starving and robbing the inhabitants in the hopes of obtaining sufficient supplies for themselves. They had a great opportunity both with Russia and Roumania. In President Wilson's words, they destroyed Russia and deceived Roumania. In their allies they had, as we have seen, many advantages. They were not scattered as were those of England, and properly treated they would have formed a wall of defence which no enemy could have broken. But the conquering German knew how to treat neither friends nor enemies, and Bulgar,

Turk, and Hungarian alike felt for him no love.

We have seen how their conduct at sea brought upon them the enmity of America. For a time the Germans cared not how many enemies they made. If their unconquerable armies did not win, their submarines would secure them the victory.

In 1918 German hopes once again ran high. Paris was within their grasp—but like all their other hopes it was never to be realised. Bulgaria, Turkey, Austria-Hungary, all surrendered unconditionally to the enemy. There was still the German army; but before the Germans could realise what had happened it was in the hands of Marshal Foch and there was no escape.

For Germany there was no choice. Either her armies would be destroyed before her eyes or she must submit to the Allies' terms.

The history of war gives no instance of a collapse so swift, so crushing, and so complete.

The 11th November, 1918.—It is difficult for us who live in India to understand the joy in London on the 11th November, 1918, when the news came that Germany had accepted all our terms, and it was understood that the cruel war was over. For years, as we have seen, the city had been in darkness lest a treacherous enemy should attack it. Each day had brought from either land or sea tidings of death, and British dead alone now amounted to over half a million. The Empire was safe, and, more than that, it had borne a mighty part in bringing about an overwhelming victory. The crowd sang, "Now thank we all our God," and from the King and Prime Minister the first words were, "Let us thank God."

The Triumph of King George.—Then began such a week of rejoicing as England had never known before. There was no disorder, no unseemly boasting. The King's palace was again the centre to which all processions went, and again and again the King and Queen came out to receive the cheers of their subjects. Wherever the King and Queen went—whether among their poorer subjects or along the more splendid streets of the capital—it was one long roar of welcome.

Perhaps the most striking scene of all was when 30,000 wounded soldiers came to meet the King. They were all

arranged in ranks, blind, crippled and maimed—but King came they could not be restrained. They broke ranks and surrounded him almost in transports of joy. a sight which none could see without emotion. For their they had been wounded, and now they greeted him with warmest affection.

The reason for all this good will was well expressed in the House of Commons. From the day the war began King George had shared in all the sacrifices and sufferings of his people, and in this the Queen had nobly supported him.

The Surrender of The German Fleet.—A few days later—on the 21st November, 1918—there was a sight never before witnessed in modern war—the surrender of the fairest portion of the German Fleet. To meet it the British Fleet put out to sea, accompanied by an American and French Squadron. The German ships came flying the German flag and also the white flag of surrender. At sunset the German flag was hauled down and the German Fleet that was to conquer the world had ceased to be. There were no cheers, and some British officers could not bear to look on the surrender. They felt that the Germans throughout the war had disgraced the name of sailors, whilst quietly to give up without a struggle the most powerful fleet in the world save one was unworthy of the true warrior.

Admiral Beatty said the enemy had paid a singular tribute to the Mistress of the Seas, and one without parallel in history. Thus the German fleet had to “come out”, but it was to surrender. “It is my intention,” signalled Admiral Beatty, “to hold a thanksgiving service in the evening for the victory which Almighty God has vouchsafed to our arms.” It was none the less a victory because bloodless. The memory of Jutland was enough to keep the German sailors from risking another encounter. One German officer at least had the merit to feel his position. “This deplorable surrender will ruin the German Navy for all time. It had no sea traditions to live up to like the British Fleet. Now we have only a dishonourable record and no man will want to serve in a disgraced service.”

The Surrender of the German Submarines.—By the terms of

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King George V

the armistice all the German submarines were sunk. This took place in solemn silence. The British were silent. So were the Germans who surrendered boats. When they reached the English harbours the thousands of spectators who had come to see the ships after the ceremony were silent also. It seemed like the arrest of murderers.

In France and Belgium.—In France men and women wept for joy at the thought that their country would be free now from the presence of a cruel enemy, and their Provinces—Alsace and Lorraine—snatched from them by the Germans over forty years ago, would be restored. And who shall describe the feelings of those old men and women in Alsace and Lorraine who for over forty years had prayed for deliverance from Germany? Or the welcome to the King and Queen of Belgium as they rode in triumph once again into their capital Brussels, with a procession of ten miles of Allied troops behind them?

There was another side to the picture of joy—in England, France and Belgium, and in all the allied countries, the dead would never return. This was most marked in the case of little Serbia, which had lost half its male population in this cruel war. But for all that, it was right for all to rejoice. The enemy of civilisation had been vanquished.

In Germany.—Whilst King George and King Albert of Belgium were receiving the homage of their subjects, the German Emperor had secretly fled to Holland, leaving his wife and children in Berlin. Revolution broke out all over Germany, and the rage of her citizens when they learned of the terms imposed upon Germany, and that they were powerless, knew no bounds. Gone were all the hopes of but a few months back. They were without a friend. Defeated on every field, without an ally, with revolution everywhere in the country, their position was not to be envied. They had aimed at either world-empire or downfall. They had obtained downfall.

Their allies were in no less miserable a plight. Enver Bey and Talaat Bey had fled from Turkey. The King of Bulgaria and the Emperor of Austria had lost their thrones. Such was the

Germany and Austria and their dreams of Empire.

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS.—We should miss the whole of the war, if we imagined that everything was finished with the defeat of Germany and her allies. To the best men in England and in America it was more than a fight to defeat Germany. It was on behalf of what we call civilisation.

If Germany had Won.—If Germany had won, all that we call civilisation would have perished. Her World-Empire would have been based on dishonour and treachery, and could only have been maintained by force, as actually proved the case during her brief dominion in Belgium and Russia. She had nothing to give the world but brute force.

Now she has lost, the consequences of her ill deeds remain, and over a quarter of the world there is anarchy.

To undo the damage of the past five years much time and patience will be necessary.

The League of Nations.—There is the still more difficult question of what is to happen after the war. In this war science has so developed that it is thought another war of this magnitude would bring about the destruction of the human race. The science of air-warfare is but beginning. In twenty years, if a war then broke out, every city on this earth could be swept away. The submarine has shown what damage could be done at sea by an unscrupulous enemy. On land with poison gas and guns, the like of which have never been seen before, a forecast has been given of what future wars may be.

As has been said, armies and navies will still be necessary, but for defensive purposes. The League of Nations will be powerless unless its members agree to limit their powers and have means of making all other nations keep to the agreement.

Co-operation.—The present war has shown how this can be done. We have seen English and American soldiers serve under a French General. As in the case of Indian soldiers under British officers it has not injured either. The war has brought about a spirit of co-operation not only between the Allies, but between different sections of each community in each country, such as has not been witnessed before.

Will this spirit of co-operation and friendliness between nations and men continue? Will the new Germany that is rising out of the ruins of the old continue its lying and plotting and scheming for mastery? On the answer to these questions, depends much of the future of the world. Then side by side with the spirit of friendliness between the Allies, there has been the rise of new nations, a tendency to Bolshevism and anarchy. Will men see that in the maintenance of law lies the best security for the betterment of mankind?

The war has shown the need for better education in each country, the necessity for better housing conditions for the poor, and each nation will need to bestir itself if it is to keep a place in the new world which is now beginning.

The Lessons of the War.—The lessons of the war have been many, and perhaps the greatest has been that of sacrifice. The war has been won by sacrifice—by each nation giving of its best for the sake of the common cause. In our story of the war we have read of many who gave up their lives for others.

Are there many of us who in time of peace are prepared to live for others? Perhaps the best illustration of the lessons of the war can be given by a study not merely of what Indians or English soldiers have done but of the Empire's part. In this we have a great example both of co-operation between the different nations of the Empire and of sacrifice for one great cause under the influence of one great purpose.

The British Empire.—Before the war many of us had never heard of the British Empire save in a geography class. If we have learnt nothing else we have seen what a great force it is in this world. It is not a nation, but a family of nations. It extends over one quarter of the earth's surface. Within its boundaries are men of every religion and almost every race. In it thousands of languages are spoken. And the power which binds all these different peoples together is the King-Emperor.

It may be asked why so many have come from every continent to die for their King. It is because they knew that if Germany won, their liberties would cease to exist. Under the King-Emperor's flag all men can live according to their own religion and own customs, always, provided they keep the laws,

And the difference between the British Empire and the Empires of the past is this. They rested on force and were maintained by force. So with the Empire of Germany which has ceased to be. The British Empire is a partnership of nations. Men remain in it of their own free will because they believe that in no other association will they have such freedom, such security and such justice.


India too has benefited by being a part of the British Empire. She also has security, both on land and sea. Her people have liberty to live their lives in their own way. Her representatives have been called to the King-Emperor's War Councils on the same terms as those from other British Dominions. For years she has shared in British justice. She shares increasingly in British institutions. Under the King's flag India has a high position in the world's commerce and has more and more intercourse with other nations. She shares their best thoughts. She has also much to give.

Now in this war we have seen each part of the Empire give of its best in blood and treasure to defend the Empire against the threats of Germany. To all the world the principles on which the British Empire has stood are exactly the opposite of those on which German power rested. It has stood for peace in a great war. It has done much to save civilisation. In this war by a common purpose all have been as one. To all the world the British Empire is a great achievement, and means peace for the world. The question now is how far in peace the Empire's mission can continue and increase. It is a great inheritance, but it can be made even greater if in each portion of the Empire men strive to raise the lot of those around them, and learn to strive for others. And its best motto is that borne by our Prince of Wales—"I serve".

Conclusion.—Whatever the future may have in store we know that our King and our armies and India fought for what was right. They tried to fight fairly. They suffered much but they thought that death was better than a German victory. They endured much hardship, but from the beginning they had faith that there is victory where righteousness is, that once again Rama would destroy Ravana. So it has proved. Indian

soldiers have helped to win this Great War. They have fought for India and they have kept a cruel enemy away from our country.

The Dead.—Many of our friends have died in this war. Let us never forget them. Let us remember that they fought for what was right and let us hope that now men will be prepared not to die for what is right but to live for what is right; that from this war and its terrible sufferings we shall learn that deceit is wrong, that cruelty is wrong, whether in time of peace or war. Let one and all of us strive to keep our word, to be kindly to the poor and to the weak, and to do our duty without fear of the consequences. This England tried to do in the Great War. She kept her word.

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THE END.