

INTRODUCTION

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FOR reasons connected with the demands of propaganda, a separate issue, at one shilling, of Part II. of "The Great Illusion" had been arranged long before the present war. The outstanding reason of that decision was, briefly, that certain fortuitous circumstances having caused attention to be directed to the First Part, to the exclusion of that here reprinted, a very lop-sided view of the case presented by the book as a whole, had gained currency. This is not an unusual result: very few 400-page books other than fiction get read with any attention beyond the first 200 pages. It was hoped that a separate publication, beginning at the 150th page and published at a shilling (for a large part of the public does not value the discussion of ideas on such trifles as war and peace at higher than "a shilling a shot"), might insure some attention equivalent to that given to the first part.

All the reasons that rendered such publication desirable before the war have since been greatly strengthened.

In the execution of the original intention, this volume has become something more than a reprint. In order to make it self-contained, and to show its relevance to the problems of the present war, the first chapter of Part II. of "The Great Illusion," and a small portion of the second, have been replaced by three new chapters,