

law promulgated by foreign powers only against him as principles not of right, but of politics, and to be punished for an action which was not punishable at the time it was committed.

"Nor can she consent to a request being addressed to Holland to surrender a German to a foreign power for such unjust proceedings. As to the surrender of persons accused of violation of the laws and customs of war for trial by a military tribunal, even where proceedings have already been begun by German Courts, Germany is forbidden by her Criminal Code to make such extradition of German subjects to foreign Governments. Germany again declares her preparedness to see that violations of international law are punished with full severity . . ."

As we have seen, Germany admits in chapter 4 the violation of international law, and in chapter 9 is prepared to see such violations "punished with full severity," and yet the principal ringleader in the violation of Belgian neutrality, which resulted in wholesale murder, robbery, arson and rape, is not to be punished for his part in the outrage. This is obviously inconsistent.

As for making the ex-Kaiser and his satellites martyrs. It is quite true that there are some people in the world who have a maudlin sympathy for criminals, no matter how atrocious their crimes. We had an instance of that in Toronto quite recently. But in spite of all such sympathisers with criminals, the better opinion appears to be that criminals should be made to pay the penalty of their crimes, if only as a deterrent to others who have similar criminal propensities.

As for the place of trial of the ex-Kaiser and his confederates, Belgium, the scene of their principal crimes, seems the more appropriate place and yet their other violations of international law to be atoned for—the murder of Captain Fryatt and of the passengers on the *Luisitania*—may well be tried in London as proposed. The official reply to the German protest puts the matter in a fairly convincing way. It is as follows:—

"The allied and associated Powers have given consideration to the observations of the German delegation in regard to the trial of those chargeable with grave offences against international morality, the sanctity of treaties and the most essential rules of practice.