

It seems absolutely necessary to assume, indeed it is generally felt, that this war, which is trying the spirits of true men of all nations very sorely, and which is proving how thin a veneer this civilization, culture, *kultur*, or whatever name we call it, really is, will send us back everywhere in our thinking in all departments of life, back to essentials, back to face the facts of life as they are known in this present day. It will be absolutely necessary for every one, but most of all the duty of every scholar and trained student, to decide whether the material or the moral and spiritual interests of life are to take first place in our thoughts and aims and hopes for the future.

A "peace-man" from conviction, who believes that the differences that led to this disastrous war were not so great that they could not have been settled by conference and arbitration, I yet must hesitate to believe that we are in the midst of the last great conflict of armed nations. I often wonder if any other war ever needed or had so much apology made for it. That brings to my mind an element of cheer because it gives hope that my main thesis can be established. This basic thesis is that the whole question of peace or war is a question of evolution. Gradually the evolution of man has made humanity the highest type of animal, a thinking person, a moral person. Lapses from the ideal or perfect take place in each and all of us, in every nation, race and tribe. The great, the absolute necessity is to develop the spiritual and moral forces, so that reason and right may command our lives and actions *at all times*. Unless that is done during and after this war, then there can be no guarantee that wars will not recur. Culture or civilization is shown in the degree that individuals and nations allow the moral to have precedence in conduct and life. The best short guide to what this culture is may be found in I. Corinthians, chap. 13, and for a long time to come nothing will supersede that. The trouble is that in each of us there is lacking *the will* to put that code into practice. Indulgence in the passion of hatred of neighbors and nations, and of all the other weaknesses flesh is heir to, prevents the acceptance of this *universal law*. Then, too, we