

only was no convention ever made, but also that neither of the two Governments ever made any advances or propositions concerning the conclusion of any such convention. Moreover, the minister of Great Britain at Brussels, who alone could contract engagements in her behalf, never intervened in these conversations, and the whole Belgian ministry are ready to pledge themselves on oath that no conclusion arising from these conversations was ever brought before the cabinet or even laid before one single member of it." This solemn declaration may be set alongside the caustic rejoinder made by Sir Edward Grey to the German Chancellor's muddle-headed explanations of his famous, or infamous, "scrap of paper" speech in the Reichstag. After stating that the fact that there is no note of the Brussels conversations at the British War Office or Foreign Office shows that they were of a purely informal character, and that no military agreement was ever made between the two Governments, the British Foreign Secretary, in an official paper dated 26th January, 1915, convicts Herr von Bethmann Hollweg of holding the curiously perverted view that "a wrong becomes a right if the party which is to be the subject of the wrong foresees the possibility and makes preparation to resist it."

It should be added that the Belgian Government took the opportunity of the declaration mentioned above to dispose of another German fiction in the following terms: "Before the declaration of war, no French force, even of the smallest size, had entered Belgium, and no trustworthy evidence can be produced to contradict this affirmation."

THE reinforcement in the United States of Count von Bernstorff by Dr. Dernburg was not productive of any better results on the side of truth and justice. The only string on which Dernburg harped with any success, before he was constrained to admit that he had so poor a case, was the representation that Sir Edward Grey had expressly refused to assure Germany of England's neutrality even in the event