

To-morrow

regain her freedom. But this task does not come seriously before us until after the war.

We must, then, bend all our energies to the first task. We must conquer the Prussian. There are only two ways open to us, namely, to lose our individuality and freedom, yes and our national religion as well, or crush the Teuton. To this latter work let us apply ourselves. Let us not allow fear to rule in our mortal spirits.

“Wherefore, like a coward, dost thou forever pip and whimper and go cowering and trembling? Despicable biped! What is the sum-total of the worst that lies before thee? Death? Well, Death; and say the pangs of Tophet, too, and all that the Devil and Man may, will, or can do against thee! Hast thou not a heart, canst thou not suffer whatsoever it be; and, as a child of Freedom, though outcast, trample Tophet itself under thy feet, while it consumes thee? Let it come, then; I will meet it and defy it! And I shook base fear away from me forever.”* It is for all true lovers of liberty to follow in the footsteps of Carlyle with respect to fear in these days that call so loudly for bravery.

*“Sartor Resartus,” page 184. Carlyle.