

Robert Cecil replied that there is no purpose of transferring Ireland to another sovereignty.)

All I wish to press on my hon. friend below the Gangway and those who are attracted by these phrases is that, after all, it may be quite true, as I said just now, that it would not be a good ground to go to war to accomplish acts of justice and reparation such as I have described, yet, having attained them by war, it is quite a different thing to ask us to resign and abandon fruits which every one must recognize are in themselves desirable achievements. That is the limitation which I should wish to put upon my assent, as far as it is assent, to the phrase, 'No annexation'.

The Question of Indemnity

Then about no indemnity. I am not quite sure that I understand what is meant by that, but for us to talk about not wishing for any indemnity seems to me perhaps a little more difficult. What about Belgium? Does the hon. member say no indemnity for Belgium? [To this Mr. Snowden replied that Belgium must have not only restoration of its independence, but the restoration of all the damage that has been done.] Then what about Serbia? Does the hon. member's principle cover Serbia also? And what about the northern provinces of France? Those are all covered, I understand. Are we to rule out definitely all reparation for the destruction of peaceful merchant vessels by submarines? I am certainly not prepared to do that. Therefore I should like to know exactly what these phrases mean before I give my assent or the assent of the Government to their adoption. Then the hon. member said the Allied Governments should rewrite and issue a Note in very different terms, and he proceeded to give what appeared to me to be the description of the Note which I have read in German papers, but which is altogether at variance with the terms of the Note itself.

M. Miliukoff's Note

I have not got what M. Miliukoff said before me, and I should like to study it before I accept the interpretation of what he said. The Note only deals with this part of the question in a very few lines. I should like to know which of the statements