

than for his country. When he was discredited an effort was made to show that he had intimate relations with certain dignitaries of the Vatican. A man named Leprestre was brought forward to testify to the alleged facts. His story depended on documents said to be at the United States Embassy in Rome. It was assumed possibly that the American Ambassador, Mr. Page, would not interfere. But, when the matter was brought to his attention, Mr. Page said: "The story is the biggest lie possible—no document of the kind had ever come to his knowledge or been sent to Washington; the whole tale was an invention from beginning to end."

Patriots see that a few groups of Catholics in the Allied countries, a few millions in all out of the hundred and ten millions of Catholics involved, are not co-operating with the Allied forces energetically, and conclude that it is all the Pope's doing! This conclusion can only be drawn by one who has no knowledge of the circumstances, and who supplies a link in the chain of inference out of a fund of prejudice. The Pope never instructs us Catholics as to how we should vote at elections or how we should conduct military campaigns or what part we should take in wars. These things are all outside his sphere of action. His duties have reference to the moral and spiritual side of life. The only instruction he has issued to Ireland or Quebec in regard to the war is his request to pray for a just and lasting peace. There are very nearly a thousand Catholic priests engaged as military and navy chaplains in the British forces, including those of the Dominions. The number of Catholic men requiring so many chaplains may be conservatively estimated at three-quarters of a million. If the Pope is to be held responsible for those Catholics who, for racial or other reasons, are accused of having failed to measure up to the average standard of patriotism in war times, then at least let him have the credit of those many hundreds of thousands of Catholics fighting in the British Armies. But, of course, neither the blame nor the praise is due to the Pope. It is