

forced to ignore the righteous protests of Luxembourg and Belgium. The 'wrong'—I speak openly—the 'wrong' we thereby commit we will try to make good as soon as our military aims are attained. He 'who is menaced as we are' and 'is fighting for his highest possessions can only consider how he can hack his way through.'

Second, a little later, the Germans claimed the invasion of Belgium was justified because they had discovered in the archives of the Belgium capital proofs of an understanding between Great Britain and Belgium that the former was to invade Germany through the latter.

It is not necessary to state that the allegations in respect of the intention of Great Britain and Belgium were as unfounded as those in respect of France; but, incidentally, it is a curious illustration of German logic that so far as Great Britain and Belgium are concerned, Germany invaded Belgium for reasons which she did not know existed until after the invasion took place.

Germany laboured thus to defend an action which common knowledge of the world should have told her would, as it did, shock humanity.

GERMAN CLAIMS SHATTERED.

The revelations of Prince Lichnowsky, German Ambassador to Great Britain in 1912, the one man of Germany who knew most of the diplomatic mind of the country to which he was accredited and of the people of Great Britain as a whole, in respect of peace and war, are of the utmost importance to the world and of very special importance to the people of Canada as part, and as fighting in the cause, of the Empire. They completely shatter every pretence made by Germany for declaring war and for invading Belgium, the two most monumental crimes of all modern times.

It is perhaps not remarkable that Prince Lichnowsky, in his retirement, and without hope of, and without ambition to again occupy, any public position, a man of ideals, of high sense of international justice, of wise and judicial perceptions, of generous and even benevolent disposition, of good motives and of scholarly habits, should wish to place on record for the benefit of his descendants and of his confidential friends and intimates the truth of the situation in which he was placed and an explanation of the memorable part which he endeavoured to play in averting a world catastrophe; but it is remarkable that it should have been published with undoubtedly official

consent in Germany. For what motive or with what possible change of policy in view their publication was permitted, or encouraged, as the case may be, is a matter of much speculation. One writer has regarded it thus:

"Do the militarists think their triumph is safe, and the time come for them to throw off the mask? Or have the opponents of militarism, who seemed so crushed, succeeded in asserting their power? Is it a plan to induce the ever docile German population to hate England less?"

It is to be noted that the story of his "Mission to London, 1912-1914," by Lichnowsky, was published at a time when Germany had triumphed in the East and had made such complete and colossal military arrangements as to apparently promise certain victory in the West. Recent German writers and official correspondence of recent date have not attempted to disguise the real aims or the atrocity of German methods in this war and there are grounds for the almost certain conclusion that it is all part of a settled policy of terrorism whereby through dread of worse to come the Allies may be induced to accept a peace on German terms. It is explicable on the very basis of the diabolic German conceptions of all this war and all it portends of German ambitions.

Lichnowsky has told us nothing that is new, nothing that the world did not already know, or suspect; but as a German document it tells, as Professor Gilbert Murray expresses it, "a ghastly story of blindness and crime," which renders it impossible to treat with the military leaders of Germany in any other sense than that they are self-confessed criminals, who have none of the alleged chivalry of bandits or pirates and with whom it is imperative and inevitable that the struggle should continue to a conclusive end. A recent cartoon represents a soldier who has been through and witnessed the horrors of the war, shaking hands with His Satanic Majesty and saying: "You'll excuse me for thinking so wrongly of you. You're not a half bad old cock." He is at least the Devil we always knew. The German is the devil we did not know, but have found out.

One feature of importance in Prince Lichnowsky's memorandum, is his very clear, very fair and exceedingly accurate analysis of the British attitude of mind, of the British aims of foreign policy and of the social conditions which affect British politics and of how politics react as creating social cleavages. In fact, the ex-ambassador in the pangs of regret almost takes upon