

A War-Time Journal : Germany, 1914

stood gazing at a map of the war, and one said : " I am *disgusted* with England, just disgusted. So degrading of her to help a country like Russia, and side with assassins, just degrading ! All we Americans despise her now." I thought to myself : " If I go to prison for it, I will not allow anyone to call my country ' degraded and disgusting. ' " So I said, trembling with wrath, " There is nothing ' degrading ' in being honourable, nor despicable in keeping true to your word. England promised to protect Belgium's frontier, and she is bound to do it."

Several Germans were gathered round the map, and they scowled at me until I faced them calmly and said : " Jeder man für sein Land " (Every man for his country), and they answered quite civilly : " Gewiss ! " (Certainly). The Americans in Altheim, I found afterwards, were chiefly of German extraction, which accounted for the woman's behaviour.

Early this morning three men arrived to search my room for weapons. I was in bed, but they pushed past the maid Käthchen, forced their way in, pried into every corner, and departed. Emile the housemaid here has *four* brothers at the war. Dreadful