

Thank GOD we rarely hear of such unworthy excuses now, for we have begun to learn our lesson, and to realize the aim and object of Prussian militarism—to realize that

IF GERMANY IS VICTORIOUS EVERY REFINEMENT OR BRUTALITY OF OUTRAGE WITHIN THE COMPASS OF GERMAN IMAGINATION WILL BE INFLICT ON US IN OUR TURN.

We can expect no miracles to intervene to save us if we sit still. A year ago we were as a nation and empire wholly unprepared for this war—it was about the last thing thought of, notwithstanding the oft repeated warnings of wise men like Lord Roberts and others, who were denounced right and left as mere alarmists. Germany had this war in view for years and was thoroughly equipped for European conquest. She had diligently gathered together and trained the largest army of any nation in the world—a mighty force of disciplined soldiers full of fierce zeal and lust of blood—who like hounds strained at the leash waiting for *the day* and the hour when the Prussian dogs of war should be let loose to destroy the land and slay with merciless hate all who opposed them. And that day came unexpectedly a year ago.

Moreover, these Germans entered upon this war with their minds carefully *trained out* of the idea of every moral sense and obligation—private—public—or international. The hellish cruelties practised on non-combatants in obedience to orders for the purpose of establishing frightful