

"first moral power in the world to-day," and has vindicated its "right to be appealed to on questions of national and international morality." Any importance that may attach to the rôle to be played by the United States when the war is over will result merely from the fact that it happens to be the only great nation that kept out of the war from start to finish. Virile Americans, like Mr. Roosevelt, and ex-President Eliot, will be more gladly listened to in connexion with the settlement than those who scrupled to say a single word, even as members of Peace and Arbitration Societies, in condemnation of the influences which prevented conference and mediation between the powers of Europe, and would not even raise their voices against bomb-dropping and the violation of all the Hague conventions.

THE German cause has not been helped by its advocates in the American press. For instance, in the *New York Sun* (March 14th), the notorious General Bernhardt, who seems to carry a fountain-pen along with his revolver in the General Commando at Posen, speaks of the "agreements" which Belgium, as he alleges, made with England "in case Britain should become involved in a war with Germany." What he means is of course the informal conversations which took place in 1906 and again in 1911, between British and Belgian officers as to the steps which might become necessary if Germany should use her carefully constructed line of strategic railways for the purpose of violating the neutrality of Belgium. The German translation of the documents found at Brussels carefully suppresses an inconvenient marginal note which expressly states that "the entry of the English into Belgium would only take place after the violation of our neutrality by Germany," and falsifies the text by substituting "conventions" for "conversations." It is a helpful coincidence that within a few days of the publication of Bernhardt's latest literary effort, the Belgian Government issued a statement in which it "declares on its honour that not