

of life and property. Its glories and its triumphs so blinded their imperial vision that naught else could be seen. War's appalling and inconceivable horrors were not for Germany, but for the nations upon whom she was to ruthlessly trample and destroy with the instrument which she had conceived and builded.

She wanted war and she now is experiencing war and in all its appalling tragedies. The last six months have seen the German armies driven back on both fronts, the armies of Austria-Hungary demoralized, Turkey in the way of disappearing from the map of Europe, the losses of the enemy running into millions, almost every family in Germany clothed in the habiliments of sorrow, mourning for those who have fallen on their own red battle-fields, the grim spectre of want and of hunger beginning to stalk through its cities, its external commerce wiped out, its vast shipping bottled up, its ships interned in the world's great shipping ports, its great volume of internal trade destroyed, its financial structure demolished, its surviving navy skulking behind the fortifications of the Kiel canal, the other of its ships sunk off the coasts of Heligoland, off the Falkland Islands and in the North Sea, its foreign possessions captured by the allies and its imperial unity and destiny which demanded world power, threatened with dismemberment.

The last six months has seen the triple entente re-inforced by Japan and Servia and Montenegro, while other powers await the psychological moment to throw in their lot with the allies. England, France and Russia, none of them prepared for war six months ago, have since then built up invincible armies with armaments equal to, if not superior, to that of Germany, armies that will triumph over the enemy as surely as the sun will rise on the morrow. Never in the history of the British Empire has she maintained the supremacy of the seas as of to-day. Never have her arms achieved such illustrious victories as in the last six months on the battle-fields of France. The whole Empire is not only awakened to the common danger but has responded with a unity of loyalty and devotion beyond utterance. The whole world has been aroused to the German menace, and the great national powers that have not yet arisen are awaiting to join their forces with the allies and crush for all time the military autocracy that is now devastating as a pestilence the fruitful

country and the historic cities of central Europe.

Probably the most striking feature of the war has been the inconsistent, the paradoxical character of the military party in Germany. Though since the Franco-Prussian war they have concentrated their greatest energies in preparing for this war, although every feature of the national life has been permeated and steeped with this intention, and although the German Emperor selected the occasion and the conditions under which this colossal war was to be waged, and the nations against whom directed, yet with a paradoxical inconsistency and deception he throws the responsibility of this war upon Great Britain. Notwithstanding that he had declared war upon Russia and upon France some days before Great Britain made her declaration, yet his press and his declarations teem with malicious falsity as to the causes and sources of the war. Notwithstanding Germany's courage as a military power, yet greater moral cowardice is not to be found in human annals than the deception the German Government is now seeking to practise upon the masses of her own people and upon those in other nations credulous enough to be deceived by the falsity of their representations.

Although for a generation she has prepared and preached an intended war, yet she now whiningly claims to have been a nation of peace, and to be credited with striving to maintain the peace of Europe for the last forty years. A short time ago Professor Lasson, of the University of Berlin, wrote a letter that had wide circulation, claiming that German characteristics were love, charitableness, loyalty and truth, while at the same time he was author of a work glorifying the brutality of war and ignoring in war every law human and divine, a work now published by the German Government and distributed for popular use. In this work he out-ran Trietchke, Bernhardt and the other of the most brutal writers of German war literature. The German Emperor while for years avowing himself the great protector of the peace of Europe, went on preparing for this war. He it was who urged his army when leaving for the China war at the time of the Boxer troubles, that they were to spread terror amongst their enemies and to adopt the methods of the Huns under Attila. He erects altars to Almighty God upon the battle fields of