

## PHARISAISM AND WAR

accept our Master's command to love our enemies, this identification is ever true in relation to them. The solidarity of the race is as true of its sins as of any other attributes.

During this half-year some nations have raised themselves and some have stumbled and fallen ; but over and above the experience of the individual peoples, humanity itself rises with the heroism of each and is lowered by the general fall. Whether we like it or not, we are members one of another. The Christian sees this more clearly than other men, and therefore he must regard the sin of his brother to some extent as if it were his own. It will be impossible for him in callous disapproval to condemn his enemy—he is one with the foe, and by love the sharer of his sins. And so it will be impossible for us to cry the German sins from our camp into theirs, like Goliath challenging the children of Israel : if we know what spirit we are of, we shall call down no fire from heaven upon them ; we shall remember our own sin, and even while we believe their greater sin forces us to fight, our spirit will stand by their side in humility and confession that these our brothers, these so close akin to us, have done this thing.

We must cease to regard ourselves as God's debt-collectors. In face of our own debt to God, whether it be five hundred pence or fifty, such a commission is not for us. But let us say in sincerity and sympathy, as we look upon Germany in her wrong and her isolation : ' There, but for the grace of God, goes England '.