

the Westminster gathering, without forgetting to add, however, that to-day everything is different. One of the most memorable and moving sights in the world at the present time is the reception given to American troops as they steam up the Mersey by the usually stolid and undemonstrative Britishers who dwell on the banks of that river. War has brought us close to each other, and both nations are irrevocably committed to obtain a decisive victory in a life and death struggle for what goes much deeper than the things that have hitherto divided them. It was the happiest of happy thoughts that seized on "Independence Day," and turned what has hitherto been a memorial of separation into a festival of union and "Interdependence."

W. P.

PATRIOTISM Loud has been the outcry and drastic the
AND action in certain parts of the United States
GERMAN against the teaching of German in the public schools. Fourteen States have already barred it. In Canada the tendency has not expressed itself so intensely outside of Ontario, where an attempt has been made to exclude the study of German even from the Universities of the province. The argument that because we are at war with Germany we must give no support to the language of the enemy sounds grandiloquent and final; but in the interests of this and every English-speaking country it is to be hoped that such pathetic blindness will not be contagious. The German language will not be effaced as a result of the war; its cultural value will remain what it was. There is no likelihood of the scientific output of the Germans becoming a negligible quantity. Sane and educated persons must face the facts of history and life, whether they be good or evil, independently of arbitrarily framed and pleasing hypotheses. Part of the strength of Germany has been due to the manner in which Germans have known how to establish themselves in other countries through a knowledge of languages. And however much we may detest its present deeds, it is childish