

THE VISIONS OF YOUTH

Thinking and unthinking, orthodox or independent, how many men to-day realize that Christ makes light in a dark world, is a rock of foundation on which to build, has the keys of human problems?

But now a stinging shock has awakened us. For we have witnessed the rise of a spirit embodying itself in certain actions and uttering itself in certain principles, bidding for the kingdoms of the earth and the glory of them. The contrast with all that is Christian is perhaps the most dramatic thing in history.

It must, we think, arouse and startle and challenge the generation that enters the field, and recognizes what is at stake. We hope and we must pray that 'out of the eater will come forth meat' and 'out of the' violent 'sweetness', and that such a demonstration of what is anti-Christian may send men back to Christ. Militarism as understood by dominant German opinion is a conspicuous aberration from His principles. But it is not the only one; and Englishmen, we trust, may be less occupied in denouncing it (though denounce it we must) than in searching their own hearts for the kindred mischiefs in their own lives and that of our nation and community, which threaten to 'materialize' life and to substitute the selfishness of 'nature' for the generosity and the devotion to love and duty, which are of Christ.