

BRITAIN AND AMERICA

MR. PAGE'S SPEECH

"GUARDIANS OF CIVILISATION"

Mr. Page, the United States Ambassador, delivered a notable speech at Plymouth on Saturday, August 4th, on the relations and war aims of the two nations. There was a brilliant spectacle on the Hoe, when the Ambassador, who, with a distinguished party, had been entertained to lunch by the Mayor, reviewed soldiers and sailors. Thousands of people were present, and the greeting extended to Mr. Page was characterised by great enthusiasm and sincerity, his eloquent speech moving the audience to great enthusiasm.

Mr. Page said: I am glad to stand in this town and, at the beginning of this new era in the life of our race to pledge the unwavering fellowship of free men across the sea—the sea that once separated us, but that now unites us. I pay homage here to the immortal memory of those sturdy men who sailed from this harbour nearly 300 years ago and carried to the making of our New World that love of freedom which now impels us to come to the defence of the imperilled freedom of the world. The idealism of the Republic rests on their unconquerable spirit, which we keep yet, thank God, when a high duty calls us. In memory of them, and in the comradeship of this righteous war, whose awful shadow will darken the world till we win it, I greet you as kinsmen.

We are met on the most tragic anniversary in history. It is not a day to celebrate for its own sake. What we shall be glad to celebrate will be the day of victory, and its anniversary ever afterwards. But, before we achieve victory, it is fit that we meet on this dire anniversary to fortify our purpose, if it needs fortifying, and to pledge ourselves that the brave men who have died shall not have died in vain; and to reassert our purpose to finish the task, even if it exhaust the vast resources and take all the valiant lives of the Allies in Europe and of the Republic across the sea. For what would the future of the human race be worth if the deliberate and calculated barbarism of our enemies over-