

himself implicated in the affair, felt the disgrace so keenly that he resigned his portfolio and even his peerage and the headship of his family, dying socially, financially and politically for the honor of his country. The matter did not stop here. Count Okuma and his whole cabinet resigned, although there was not the slightest evidence connecting him with the transaction.

As the great Ruskin said, "Religion must be of a piece," and it is high time that we as pastors and people should see to it that our religious belief and profession agree with our business and political practice. Surely the time has come when we ought to be willing to stand together as Liberals and Conservatives for the purification of our political life; otherwise we are not worthy of the men who represent us at the front. Here is a task to challenge the manhood of those who remain behind. Can we do it? Yes, men always respond to something worth while. Shall we do it? Are we not sufficiently sick of present conditions? I think so. We have reached the parting of the ways. We must either follow Jesus in these matters as our brave boys charged up Vimy Ridge or else we had better call our Christian philosophy a failure—good enough perhaps in theory, and fine for sermon and harrangue, but impotent as a force for righteousness in the affairs of life. Our lads have covered themselves and their country with everlasting glory and shall we weaken before our enemies at home? Let one and all take a solemn vow to renew the fight for entire emancipation from political bondage, so that when our men return victorious from the front, they shall see that we, too, have had the courage of our convictions and have overthrown the enemies so long entrenched within.

M. Cambon in his Guildhall speech the other day uttered a significant phrase we do well to reflect upon. "War" said he "is a terrible thing, but it develops so many noble feelings and so much moral beauty, that people who have suffered from it without weakening, come out of it magnified and regenerated." Thousands of our boys are suffering without weakening and they shall return to us magnified and regenerated. Shall we as a Church lag behind while they march on in the development of all that is worth while in life and character? In such a case imagine their disappointment when they return; and consider a possible reaction which might prove their ruin in the day of peace, after they have so bravely survived the day of war. Downrightness, and uprightness, too, conviction and intensity of earnestness and purpose that will not be able to endure the merely artificial and formal must be the very manifest temper of the Church in the days to come, or it will not much appeal to the men who have been engaged in that terribly earnest business at the front. To them a religion that has no strength or virility in it, and that does not make