

X.

Epilogue.

So Captain Fryatt died ; he died because he had saved the lives of his ship's company from the fury of a German submarine, because as a merchant-captain he had dared to use the right of defence given to him by international law. This deed was no crime, but, in the words of His Majesty, King George, "a noble instance of the resource and self-reliance so characteristic of that profession."

The Germans well knew that this latest judicial murder would arouse the indignation of the whole world ; but they were resolved, if possible, to discourage imitation of Captain Fryatt's gallantry at all costs. "Doubtless there will be among England's sympathisers all the world over a storm of indignation against German barbarism similar to that roused by the case of Miss Cavell. That must not disturb us," wrote the German "Kölnische Volkszeitung" of the 29th July, 1916.