

ENGLISH SPEAKING PEOPLE ARE ONE

Sir, it is upon that latter principle that your nation and mine have for over one hundred years governed themselves. We make a treaty; if we find the treaty is not interpreted in the same way by both parties, it is left to the interpretation of judges or of arbitrators. If the treaty does not cover matters in dispute between us, we make another treaty; and when we make a treaty we stick to it. A "scrap of paper where a name is set is strong as duty's pledge or honor's debt;" and because Britain with Canada on the one hand and the United States on the other have looked upon their treaties as sacred, and not as "scraps of paper" we have been able to keep the peace for these one hundred years. There have been disputes but none so bitter as to produce a resort to arms; there have been controversies, but none so severe that the cannon must be the arbiter; there have been misunderstandings, great misunderstandings, but none so great as that it was thought necessary that brother's hand should be dyed in a brother's blood. While we have had our tiffs, as brothers or cousins have, between each other we have kept our bargains, and we have kept the peace. One would have thought that the example of great nations such as these nations, who had and cherished that chastity of honor which feels a stain like a wound, nations so strong that they need fear no foe; proud, wealthy, powerful nations, being content to govern themselves by the rules of ordinary honesty and simple plain dealing as between man and man, and so have kept the peace for one hundred years—one would have thought that no nation was so proud, that no nation was so strong, that it would despise the example of these.

But it was not to be—and the war has driven us into each other's arms. Sometimes I thank God for this war. I know not a day passes but some mother in Canada, scarcely a day passes but some mother in my own city, weeps for the son who has made the last sacrifice; not an hour passes but a Canadian is wounded—a Canadian's blood does not pass away; Canada is bleeding at every pore, proud of her boys, though with a broken heart: even so, I sometimes thank God for this war. The Kaiser builded better than he knew: The English speaking people are one. [Great applause; the audience rising to its feet and cheering.]

Oh, day which has been postponed for years! Oh, day which has been the subject of prayer throughout the English speaking world, the boast of the United States, Great Britain and Canada! At last our misunderstandings have passed away as mere nothings. We