

I had a friend once, a Judge of the Supreme Court of Ceylon, himself a Sinhalese, who said once to me: "I mistrust my compatriot when I see him in the dock if he is very strong and burly, because I know my people, and if a man is powerful, he is prone to abuse his strength." And so it is with the leaders of the German people. Because they were strong they became arrogant with pride, and bullied their weaker neighbours outrageously; they heaped all sorts of insults time after time on the French nation, because they had once beaten them, and reckoned that they could do it again. Their little neighbours, the Dutch and the Belgians, the Danes and the Swedes, hated them much, but feared them more. The Italians hastened to ally themselves to the Germans because it is better to be bullied than beaten. Only two nations went on their way without fear—the English and the Russians.

Bismarck (who was a very wise man) feared Russia, holding that it could never be effectually conquered and subdued; and so all through the thirty years when he was building up the fortunes of Germany, he always took good care to be on good terms with Russia. But England he both hated and despised, though he could do the English no hurt. He coveted the British Empire, and consulted with his generals as to how he could strip the haughty islanders of their wealth; but though Moltke, the General, could devise fifty ways of invading England, he could find no way of getting his armies back—because Germany had no Navy.

But there arose a new Kaiser in Germany; the old King, who had simply followed the lead of his Chancellor, was gathered to his fathers, and his grandson reigned in his stead. This talented young man discarded the wise and