

persecution and extermination. But this was due to ignorance, both of human nature and of the Divine Spirit; and those States which have granted religious toleration have shown a better understanding of facts. It may be disturbing, but it is never dangerous, to leave the door open to the religious and moral pioneer. If he be a charlatan, he will come to nothing; but if he have the Word of God for his generation, soon or late he will force the door open, whether he will or not. The one thing *not* to do with him is to try to suppress him.

4.

In the haze incidental to a state of war we seem in every land to be sliding back to the reactionary absolutist view of the State. One does not expect a profound or coherent political philosophy in the British House of Commons—let anyone peruse Hansard for a period of six months, and he will understand why England must always muddle through. Muddled affairs come from muddled minds. It is not, therefore, surprising that in recent months claims as extravagant have been made for the State in England as any political doctrinaire in Prussia has ever made—for there is no opportunity just now (even if there were the inclination) for historical retrospect and political reflection. One wonders what the shade of Burke is thinking in these days. But the real danger is not in the House of Commons, but in the country. Mr. Cole has