

could have been expected is that they have not fully recognized that hope is a duty. It would be an immense satisfaction could I entertain the hope, wild as it certainly is, of leading the majority of civilians, whether men or women, who inhabit Great Britain and Ireland, to read and ponder upon this splendid sonnet. The spirit of it ought to put an end to much abject fear. It ought to make each one of us see to doing our own duty to the country and make us dismiss a lot of futile criticism upon the methods adopted for the conduct of the war, by men who, whatever their defects, and to whatever party they belong, are really compelled, by the force at once of the most common patriotism and also of the most obvious ambition, to do the very best they can to ensure the victory for which every loyal British subject hopes and prays. A little more of the spirit of rational hope, which must certainly inspire us with unlimited confidence in the bravery and the skill of our sailors, would have averted the ridiculous, but at the same time most lamentable, mistake under which the British public, influenced by an ambiguous telegram with regard to the battle of Jutland, mistook a glorious victory for an unhappy defeat. Let every civilian throughout the United Kingdom try to practise in all its different forms this one paramount duty. There is no need to appeal either to our soldiers or our sailors. In every rank of the Navy and Army the high spirits of officers and men are as notorious as their courage.

Fifthly. England and her Allies must reject every peace which is not based on complete victory.

There must be no second Peace of Amiens, and this for two reasons. An imperfect peace means to England complete failure, and failure means the ruin of England