

take advice from the interested, the panic-stricken, or the merely ignorant, and he may easily enough lose his way and his purse, and possibly his life. The Englishman has lately suffered much from these voluntary foghorns, these sirens of the street; he has had to listen, within the space of a few days, to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. Morley, Mr. Asquith, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Haldane, Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Courtney, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, and Mr. Walter Long, from the platform, and to Sir William Harcourt and Mr. J. B. Robinson from the correspondents' corner; and the babel was swelled by a host of other voices of less carrying power. The Englishman, who could not see before, now could not even hear himself think. Hardly any two of his advisers had anything to the point in common. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman pronounced the war objectionable because it involved suffering; he was violent, but he did not show that the suffering could have been avoided. Mr. Morley thought that terms should be offered to the Boers; but he was not in a position to say that terms had not been offered, and refused. Mr. Chamberlain, who might, on the other hand, have spoken with authority on this point, gave his attention to answering the charges of barbarity, and succeeded only (by a perfectly just comparison) in exasperating the Germans, who are wandering in a very bitter fog of their own. Sir William Harcourt, after ransacking the whole forest for a stick to beat the Government, produced a lawyer's letter on the status of guerillas. Mr. Haldane protested against Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach against Mr. Morley, and Mr. Courtney, on behalf of his Conciliation Committee, challenged every other set of men in the country. The minor outeries included several from officers in South Africa, who, knowing even less than the public in England know about the progress of the war, were naturally even more anxious to have it finished. Finally came Lord Salisbury's and Mr. Brodrick's speeches, of which we shall speak later.

Of the confusion caused by these discordant outeries there can be no doubt; but there are, nevertheless, two very distinct