

*LORD HALDANE, THE KAISER AND THE CABINET.*

An esteemed friend of this journal, writing us recently from England, takes exception to some of the criticisms on Lord Haldane contained in Mr. F. S. Oliver's work of the war known as "Ordeal by Battle," and in a review of it which appeared in our April number. Coming from one so eminent as a writer and jurist his defence of Lord Haldane must be received without question as to the accuracy of his statements.

He denies the suggestion that Lord Haldane was a self-appointed diplomat as he was appointed by the British Cabinet, although according to Mr. Oliver he was sent to Berlin at the Kaiser's request. Our correspondent also takes exception to the insinuation that Lord Haldane was fooled by the Kaiser and also states that he did make a full report to the British Government on his return, though nothing was heard of this report by the public until nearly two years afterwards. We gladly accept as perfectly accurate these assurances of our correspondent and regret if in any way injustice has been done in the premises.

Not having seen the report, we are not in a position to discuss it, but if it sets forth, as it should have done and presumably did, (as the envoy had ample means of forming his judgment on the subject), the true position of affairs and the danger of a conflict, the Government with which he was connected is all the more subject to the severest censure for disregarding the warnings which he surely must have given. This is not the time for enlarging upon the inaction of the British Cabinet, but the time will come when those in power at that time will be called upon to account for a blindness and criminal indifference to warnings, which, if heeded, might have averted the ghastly slaughter, suffering and bereavement which has fallen upon those whose protection they were entrusted with.