

To all fair minded readers :

The following is practically the text of an address prepared at the request of the People's Forum, of Ottawa, in November last. A few paragraphs have been added and slight corrections made, in order to bring it up to date when it was to be delivered at the Russell Theatre, on the 17th of December 1914.

In both instances, the speaker was prevented from delivering the address. Intimidated by threats of violence, the members of the People's Forum cancelled their invitation. Hooliganism and rowdyism, led by men bearing the uniform of the King and waving the Union Jack, prevented a peaceful and respectable audience from hearing the speaker, at the Russell Theatre.

Whether the sentiments and opinions expressed in the address justified this double and successful attempt at stifling free speech in this "free" British Country, is left to the calm judgment of fair-minded readers.

*To some it may be of interest to know that this address is almost entirely made up of extracts from the speaker's previous declarations published in *Le Devoir*, since the outbreak of the war. It contains all the statements which were the object of the fiercest denunciations of the 'loyal' press. It includes also the context giving the true meaning of the writer's opinions as expressed in fact. Thanks to a careful and systematic suppression of that context, the 'loyal' press succeeded in creating the legend of the writer's 'disloyalty', and clamoured for a severe punishment of his 'treachery'.*

*The same process was resorted to in regard to other articles published in *Le Devoir* and dealing with the policy pursued by Sir Edward Grey and the British government previous to the war. These will soon be translated into English and published in pamphlet form.¹*

¹ *The Foreign Policy of Great Britain, 1915, at the office of *Le Devoir*, price: 25 cents.*