

Russia and Italy and Japan are at one, nothing can prevent Germany's overwhelming defeat. That would not be certain if France were detached or Russia, perhaps, nor if Italy or Japan were on Germany's side.

Another score of years, or two score, or more, the world would be watching the treacherous giant—whose word is as naught, whose heart is of stone, whose conscience is seared as with a hot iron—preparing, preparing, at first with obsequious and pretended friendliness and frankness, then becoming more and more confident, and as a consequence more and more insolent. "Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." The Prussian spirit is as natural and necessary to the Prussian as the dark skin to the Ethiopian or the spots to the leopard. The sword soon begins again to rattle in the scabbard, shining armor is again the glorified costume of Germania, Attila and his Huns again the object of admiration, held up as an example to follow. And when the right time comes, when "der Tag" is arrived, then the bound of the beast of prey, fearing nothing indeed, but sparing nothing, the superman run amok.

Better fight it out now once and for all. Better this generation suffer more and longer than that the next and the next and the next should share our Gethsemane. Some time the horrible spirit must be dominated, the spectre laid; and there is no time like the present. Freedom and democracy must eventually con-

quer and bear beneficent sway—let that, most devoutly to be wished for, come as soon as possible. Let us clear out of the way the fiend of militarism that the world may settle down to the ways of peace, every nation large and small may work out its own destiny without the eternal fear of brutal interference and domination by the power which has made itself the very nightmare of the world. So long as Germany is not beaten down in arms or so long as she does not repent her present state of mind, it will be impossible that the nations can "beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into reaping hooks, that nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more

Masonry free and democratic, cannot but uphold the hands of those who are bringing on a real peace, a lasting peace, based as it must be and can only be on the signal and utter defeat of the Hun—who desires neither freedom for other nor democracy for himself. "If Germany conquers nothing else in God's world matters."

Or if this be not the position of Masonry, "Mene, mene, tekcl, Upharsio": she is weighed in the balances and found wanting, and her kingdom must be divided and given to others more worthy.

This shall not be. Masonry will stand for the right, give of her means for the right, give of her sons for the right. Serene she will wait, caring for no wind or tide of sea, in the sure and certain hope that right will prevail.