

be like attempting to paint the lily, and I am not much of a painter and am not very well up in flowers. I wish to say a few words before the Address is passed. I was very much impressed indeed by the speech of the hon. leader of the Government, but there are one or two points that might have been mentioned. It seems to me that in addition to the armies of both sides of this war, Providence has had a very visible hand. The plans of Germany were, as the hon. leader has stated, under advisement for a quarter of a century, and their plans were made with the utmost skill and craft, but certain things happened that rendered all those preparations to a certain extent nugatory. For instance, if the city of Liège had not offered the sturdy resistance that it did, nothing could have hindered the German army from getting to Paris; and afterwards at Mons, when, under all ordinary circumstances the allied armies should have been defeated and routed, the undaunted and stubborn bravery of the English troops prevented that rout. These are two cases where it seems to me the hand of Providence interposed. If my hon. friend will not take it unkindly there is one little criticism I wish to make as to something he said with reference to the United States.

He spoke of the Anglo-Saxon press of the United States. Now, I am not aware that there is any special Anglo-Saxon press in the United States. There is an English-speaking press, that is conducted largely by Irishmen (laughter). To describe the English-speaking press of the United States as the Anglo-Saxon press is slightly incorrect. There are a number of newspaper men in the United States who would not like to be described as Anglo-Saxon.

I do not propose to traverse the ground that has been gone over in such a thorough and capable way by the hon. gentlemen who have preceded me. The few words I have to say may, to a certain extent, be considered as endorsing those of the hon. gentleman who leads this side of the House. I just take the speech, and although I am not going to deal with it at any length, I shall draw attention to certain things that His Royal Highness says:

During the months which have elapsed since the outbreak of war, the people of Canada have given most abundant and convincing evidence of their firm loyalty to our Sovereign and of their profound devotion to the institutions of the British Empire.

That is unquestionable. If we go back a little distance, the idea of our sending 30,000 men within so short a time after war began, and our being prepared to send as many more after the lapse of a further short time, is something that a little while ago we could hardly credit; but we have done so, and hence one can cordially endorse what His Royal Highness says there. The next paragraph to which I shall call attention is this:

My advisers will submit for your consideration measures rendered necessary by the participation of this Dominion in the great task which our Empire has undertaken in this war.

We all cordially agree with His Royal Highness on that point. I may be allowed to say a word or two, though there is nothing fresh about it, as to what the issue of this war is. If England were defeated in this war Canada would be conquered.

Some hon. GENTLEMEN—Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. POWER—As the hon. leader of the Government has said, Prussian ambition was to be a world power, to control the whole world; that was really the scheme that they have been working upon; and if England were defeated, Canada would lose the liberty and the independence that she has enjoyed for so many years, and the place of those would be taken by the autocratic and tyrannical rule of Prussia. If the allies were defeated in this war, which I do not think at all probable, the whole world would have to bow down to Germany; and there is this thing about this power—the hon. leader of the Government made it abundantly clear that this power is not governed by international law or regard for humanity, but by a determination to win by whatever means. Like Anger in the poem, Prussia 'seeks its prey, something to tear with sharp-edged tooth and claw.'

That is it; it is tooth and claw without any regard for decency or propriety or any of the restrictions that civilization has placed upon war. The hon. gentleman referred very properly to two or three instances of the dropping of bombs on undefended towns, the bombardment of towns where the people killed were innocent and unarmed men and harmless women and children, and latest of all, the undertaking to sink passenger ships and merchant ships without giving the passengers or crew any opportunity of being saved. As the hon. leader of the Government said,