

notions came Mr. J. Gerard, more familiarly known as Jimmy. A normal matter of fact citizen of the United States, who from the beginning of his diplomatic career displayed a fine disregard for the 'divinity that doth hedge a king.'

He behaved like a good American, intolerant of humbug, always *sauve*, shrewd, imperturbable. He maintained the dignity of his position as the representative of the American people without 'strut' in word, manner or style.

Grand dukes did not impress him; indeed he speaks in whimsical manner of his tilt with the portly Duke of Mecklenburg, who at some public affair stood at a distance of ten yards from Mr Gerard and pronounced his opinion of the unneutral attitude of the United States in supplying the Allies with munitions of war. The Grand Duke smote his ample chest so elaborately decorated with ribbons, orders and medals until, as Mr. Gerard terms it, the "hardware jingled." The genial American refusing to be impressed by this ill-mannered relic of feudal days, drew the Duke's attention to the fact that the Germans had supplied the British with munitions during the Boer War. Of course the 'divine right' representative declared that the cases differed. "That's what they all say," was the homely retort of the American ambassador.

For four years this genial soul withstood insult, abuse and threat from all elements of German society and took unusual methods (for an ambassador) of dealing with such matters as they occurred. When insulted while riding in the streets of Berlin he gave chase to the offender; and there was no dignified protest through diplomatic channels. He personally haled the culprit before the authorities. The real American touch is seen in his retort to the German Foreign Secretary's boast that there were five hundred thousand German reservists in the United States who would prevent that nation from going to war. "And there are five hundred thousand lamp posts from which to hang them if they start anything," was his reply. He had a cheerful way of sending personal messages to the All Highest. "Tell him it's been so long since we met that I won't know him again."

This Yankee (in its true sense this is quite a complimentary term) in the Court of Hohenzollern remained true to his type,—quick witted observant, not devoid of humour, and quite unimpressed by the bombastic display of that feudal court. He has written for the enlightenment of his own people his impressions of this wrong headed nation which with all its gifts has done nothing better than horrify the world.

It is not necessary to repeat the story of Prussian barbarism to the people of this continent. The invasion of Belgium was the first step towards alienating the citizens of the United States, while the sinking of the *Lusitania* together with the savage exultation of the Germans when that evil deed was accomplished, contributed towards the final severance of the ancient friendship between the two nations. Mr. Gerard gives numerous examples of childish impertinence, boorish insolence, and direct affront such as helped to widen the breach and forced the greatest neutral nation into the war. But the greatest service that Mr. Gerard renders to the cause of democracy is in stripping the autocratic mountebanks of their theatrical trappings and exposing them to the ridicule of the civilized world. When the Germans also can laugh with the rest of us at their rulers—The Day—for which the rest of the world is fighting, hoping and praying will come to a weary war-sick world.