

cupation by deporting into servitude Belgian workers by the thousands.

"If there is a country which has the right to say that it has taken up arms to defend its existence, it is assuredly Belgium. Compelled to fight or to submit to shame, she passionately desires that an end be brought to the unprecedented sufferings of her population. But she could only accept a peace which would assure her, as well as equitable reparation, security and guarantees for the future.

"The American people, since the beginning of the war, have manifested for the oppressed Belgian nation its most ardent sympathy. It is an American committee, the Commission for Relief in Belgium, which, in close union with the Government of the King and the National Committee, displays an untiring devotion and marvellous activity in revictualling Belgium. The Government of the King is happy to avail itself of this opportunity to express its profound gratitude to the Commission for Relief, as well as to the generous Americans eager to relieve the misery of the Belgian population. Finally, nowhere more than in the United States have the abductions and deportations of Belgian civilians provoked such a spontaneous movement of protestation and indignant reproof.

"These facts, entirely to the honor of the American nation, allow the Government of the King to entertain the legitimate hope that at the time of the definitive settlement of this long war, the voice of the Entente powers will find in the United States a unanimous echo to claim in favor of the Belgian nation, innocent victim of German ambition and covetousness, the rank and the place which its irreproachable past, the valor of its soldiers, its fidelity to honour and its remarkable faculties for work assign to it among the civilized nations."

## **Bench and Bar.**

### **JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS.**

Robert Ruddy, of the City of Peterborough, in the Province of Ontario, K.C., to be Junior Judge of the County Court of the County of Ontario, in the said Province. (Jan. 1.)

Right Hon. James H. Campbell, K.C., Attorney-General of Ireland, has been elevated to the office of Lord Chief Justice and