

It would seem, then, that might is indisputably the dominant factor. But this does not make it the determinant factor. Superficially it may appear so, but there are deeper issues and influences to be considered; for, after all, physical force itself is controlled by the greater values of spiritual and idealistic forces—the supremacy of the mind. Here lies the ultimate triumph. So that Ethics in the final assize must tell for more than Law, because Law becomes the servant of Ethics. Conformity to the rules of warfare is a test of national ideals. The British record is a high one because the liberty-loving Briton is first of all a sportsman. His sense of fair play, and appreciation of any opponent who puts up a good clean fight, make him—from General to last-joined recruit—a gentleman on the battle-field. Of his own initiative he would, as a matter of course, avoid committing the majority of war crimes, whether International Law condemned them or not. But he expects reciprocal treatment, and knows the value of reprisal if forced thereunto.

During the Civil War in America the Federal States professed to adopt Lieber's "International Law" as the basis of action. But surely the lawyers' apotheosis was reached when Japan, newly admitted into the comity of nations, attached professors and diplomats—authorities on International Jurisprudence—to the Headquarters Staff in the Field, to advise the General Officer Commanding as to the legality of any action! Yet it was *Bushido*, not knowledge of forms and ceremonies, that secured the victory for the island empire. And that idealism which inspired her one-time enemy is alive in Russia's struggle to-day. So her devastated lands, and stricken Belgium, the trampled fields and ruined cities of northern France, our own slaughtered women and children at seaside resorts, in country villages, or on sunken vessels, our wounded, our mutilated dead and murdered prisoners, stand for no mere wastage on the mid-dens of war, but make for that spiritual influence in the world's progress that on one far day will usher in—the Golden Age.—
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