

they have brought, with Canada and Australia, the most magnificent support to the defence of the mother country.

Japan has taken charge of Tsin Tao, and Australia of the islands of Oceania. The Kaiser once declared emphatically, "Our future is on the seas." But he had not foreseen a future so brief. He had forgotten that nothing is durable which is founded on violence and contempt for honour.

The effect of the German fleet being powerless to act, means a Germany with one palsied arm, of which the best symbol is that atrophied left arm of a once terrible War Lord, who, if he had been forced to enlist, would not have been accepted by a recruiting sergeant for even auxiliary service. So Germany has been launched into the most atrocious of adventures, and Europe plunged in blood and fire by the act and order of a congenial monomaniac, who might justifiably have been claimed by a board of alienist doctors as a fit subject for their asylums.

Meantime, while the mussels and other barnacles may increase and multiply at leisure upon the keels of the boasted German dreadnoughts, the Allies continue to supply all their own wants from the teeming lands beyond the seas, and to receive delivery of all their provisions and purchases without the slightest danger or interruption—food, munitions, and all equipment and material of war. England has continued her exportations and her importations, guaranteeing to her a margin of profit amounting to the fabulous figure of 19,000,000,000 francs a year. Absolute control of the sea routes gives her, apart from this enormous revenue, the power to contract stupendous loans for her allies and herself. If the Germans were really the victors that (for the gallery) they insincerely pretend, why do they not avail themselves of the financial assistance of the American money market, instead of piling upon the heads of their own oppressed people loans and super-loans, of which they announce with so much fracas the incredible success?

In spite of all the dust in the eyes by which they think to blind neutral nations to the real facts, the Germans understand only too well, that so long as the ocean is prohibited to them, they are deprived of a great part of the essential means of resistance. They know also full well that, far from relaxing the blockade which is strangling them, Britain is now, in spite of all inspired neutral protest, tightening that mortal strangle-hold from day to day. Because they have ventured timidly at intervals into British waters to sink a few packets and fishing smacks, the Germans thought for a moment that they alone possessed submarines and knew how to use them. But, sure of her strength, Britain only raised her shoulders a little—and the price of her marine insurance. Then she quietly awaited her hour. First of all, without trumpets or drums, in fact without a whisper of publicity,