

WHEN CANADA EXULTS

Some jeered at the American love of wealth—I have not found any nation that is not fond of wealth: if there are any, they are the most degraded of savages who can have no wealth. But some of us who thought they knew the American people and knew that they loved the American people were astonished. We did not understand what was meant by neutrality in thought unless, indeed, it meant negation of thought, the easiest of all virtues and the most universally practiced. But we did not see what the great Master Workman was working out. We saw the threads but we did not know the pattern which was being worked—and when on second of April of the present year the most magnificent state paper that this continent has ever seen was read before the Congress of the United States, and the President challenged the United States to make the world safe for democracy, and asserted that the Autocrat was by nature necessarily a liar, and could not be believed, and the United States went whole heartedly to war, we saw the whole splendid pattern, and the heart of the Canadians exulted. Our brethren whom we misjudged, our brethren knew better what to do than we could possibly have told them. Our brethren knew the right when they asserted that they were going to fight for the right, and our hearts rejoiced with an exceedingly great joy. Oh! you sons of free America, do you understand the exultation and joy and delight with which the Canadians saw our brethren coming to our side and saying we are in this to the last—we will fight and bleed and if necessary die with you?

We yearn for peace—the world yearns for peace. Peace is impossible until such time as the nation whose national industry is war, until that nation whose national instinct is to steal from a peaceful neighbor and charge him with the theft, that brutal, hypocritical, lying, spying nation has either suffered utter defeat or has experienced a complete change of heart. Sir, the only peace which we liberty loving nations will accept, is the peace that kisses righteousness, for “the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever.” It is pitiable, it were incredible, if it were not true, the peace kites flown, the peace balloons going up, the petty, silly, childish attempts to bring about a compromise. As though this were a war for money or territory; as though this were a war to determine whether A or B should be monarchs of such and such a piece of land and govern such and such a people; as though in this great war for principle we could ever have peace until that nation should learn that not armed force, military