

There are other factors. Conscience, good sense, and the sentiment of duty imposed by principles of humanity, will be the surest guides for the conduct of sailors . . . The officers of the German navy, I loudly proclaim it, will always fulfil in the strictest fashion the duties which emanate from the unwritten law of humanity and civilization."

The neat question is presented, whether standards which permit the slaughter of women and children or the principles of International Law, which brand it as murder, are to prevail. The issue is sharply defined in the "Lusitania" case, and there is no other issue. There is no room for doubt as to the attitude of the United States.

McGREGOR YOUNG.

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### REPRISALS.

Although the general sense of the country, as indicated by speeches in both Houses of Parliament and by numerous articles in the lay Press, is opposed to the exercise of reprisals by reason of the violation of the laws of war by the Germans in the cases of the treatment of prisoners of war and the use of asphyxiating and deleterious gases, it should not be forgotten that reprisals between belligerents are admissible for every act of illegitimate warfare. Wheaton has enunciated the proposition, to which he has given the weight of his high authority: "The whole international law is founded on reciprocity to which there is the unavoidable corollary that, if an enemy violates the established usages of war, it may become the duty as well as the right of his adversary to retaliate in order to prevent further excesses on his part. It is for the consideration of the injured belligerent as to whether he will at once resort to reprisals or before doing so will lodge complaints with the enemy or with neutral States. Practically, however, a belligerent will rarely resort at once to reprisals, provided the violation of the rules of legitimate warfare is not very grave and the safety of his troops do not require strong and drastic measures." Lord Roberts, for instance, during the South