

protected by England and unjustly attacked in defiance of treaties. The brutality of the aggressor against Belgium, the admirable devotedness of the little Belgian army waiting for help which was not forthcoming and fighting with none the less heroism, all this aroused the enthusiasm of the Anglo-Saxon race. From one end to the other of the Empire, from Ireland to Canada, from Australia to India, from South Africa to Newfoundland, the same movement is manifested, uniting all Britannic nationalities in the same resolution: Crush the barbarian, annihilate her at any cost. And this movement is magnificent.

The German Emperor was well informed, he knew the gravity of the Irish crisis, the regrettable speech of Sir Edward Carson in Belfast September 28, showing what are still the ideas of the handful of sectarians who have done so much harm in England.

But he had not understood the Celtic soul. "You cannot, young Irishmen, be deaf to the summons of small nations crying out for aid in their fight for liberty," said Mr. Asquith, in the magnificent speech delivered in Dublin calling Ireland to arms. He had not understood the extensive and intimate bonds which for centuries have attached Catholic Ireland to Catholic Belgium. The heart of Ireland, said Mr. Redmond, speaking after the prime minister, has been profoundly moved by the spectacle of heroism and the sufferings of Belgium, and the other day, in London, I promised the Cardinal Archbishop of Malines that Ireland would consecrate her arms and her strength to revenge Louvain and to maintain the integrity and the independence of Belgium.

And these words are but the echo of the Irish soul, the universal sentiment of Irishmen in the United Kingdom and in all the dominions beyond the seas where they are numerous, and in the United States, where they are influential.

In his previsions, William II. had never dreamed of the dominions displaying such remarkable loyalty in rallying to the cause. He knew that, in Canada, the Liberal party showed itself strongly opposed to the proposition of constructing three dreadnoughts to be placed at the disposition of the admiralty, and that again, quite recently, "the serious risk that we run of losing Canada as an imperial possession" had been discussed in an important review in London, but knowing all that, he was mistaken. He had not