

cause of the war, the history of Prussian militarism, and the effects of the growth of that curse in the heart of Europe as they have come to be known, has long since removed it. If the significance of the struggle is not yet wholly apparent, it is because its proportions are so vast and our vision so limited that its meaning lies beyond us. It is the significance of the struggle that we have most to consider in attempting to decide whether the time has come to talk of peace, or whether our duty is to go on recruiting.

No one, I think, will accuse me of being a jingo, of advocating extreme measures, of preferring bloodshed to tranquillity. My sympathies are all the other way. So far as I have been privileged to share in the public life of this country, to pursue, wherever opportunity offered, the work that lies closest to my heart, it has all been in alliance with those forces that are working for peace, industrial peace and international peace. I believe in peace as the only real basis of progress, and enlightened development, as the only condition of society under which men can truly prosper and share the happiness that mankind has a right to seek; and it is because ~~for these very reasons~~ I believe in peace, that, knowing the issues and the causes of this war to be what they are, I not less strongly believe that this is the time to go on recruiting and not the moment to call a halt.

For, look at the significance of the struggle and what is involved in the outcome! Two centuries ago Prussia introduced into Europe the system that has brought death and desolation to Europe today. It had small beginnings then, the compulsory military service, the standing armies, the autocratic executive, seemed innocent enough while the country

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