

of the bludgeon (in this case the sword) are fellow citizens who do not abnegate their manhood when they take up the duties of a policeman or a soldier. It may be from a disciplinary point of view, that they should be required to have no opinions except those of the persons who for the time being are in command of them, but men remain men in spite of their uniforms. Naturally they have the same repugnance as other men to shooting down their countrymen for no better reason than that they object to be dragooned by what they claim to be a parliamentary faction which for the time being happens to have a majority, and which majority they claim does not represent the wish of the majority of their fellow citizens; and at least whose opinion on the subject has not been asked. This assertion of their manhood by those who have been placed in a difficult and trying position, even though it may be in some ways injurious, may have had the effect of averting the calamity of a civil war which would be the worst thing that could possibly happen.

One cannot ignore the danger of weakening discipline in the army, and it is difficult to define the exact limit where a soldier should be allowed to claim a right of private judgment, but that some such right will sometimes be claimed is obvious. Each case must depend upon its own merits, and in exercising such right the soldier must be prepared to accept the most rigorous treatment if he goes beyond a reasonable limit; but there seems to be in the case in point a consensus of opinion that the soldier has not overstepped the limit in refusing to be used as an instrument to coerce by force of arms those who desire to retain their present political status.

It is of the proper nature of tyranny that it is unreasoning. "*Sic volo, sic jubeo*," is none the less the dictum of the tyrant though it issue from the mouth of Demos. Is it in vain that the political patient avers "I do not like your pill and do not want it, and will have none of it"? Is the only answer to be vouchsafed "You must take it no matter whether you like it, or want it or not, and if you won't take it quietly we'll call in the bludgeon"? The patient should receive much sympathy under such circumstances.