Lessons for the Present War

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tant as the lessons to be learned from the military discipline blended with the scientific training of Germany. Would any man in his senses suggest that, even in military matters, Frenchmen would do well to follow in everything the example of Germany? We all see now that though France trains every Frenchman for the army, still France is not a militarized nation, and yet France has produced an army which, except in respect of numbers, can meet the armies of Germany on at least equal, and we might well say, looking at Verdun, on more than equal terms. With Frenchmen military capacity has not destroyed or deadened civil virtues. Though the spirit of France differs in some respects from that of England, yet in both countries freedom is held an essential element of progress. In France, as in England, no servile stupefaction at the successes gained by German despotism should induce free men to forget that they must prefer where possible those methods even of warfare which conduce to the ends not only of virtue but of liberty.

Fourthly. Englishmen should in this time of war fulfil the duty of hope.

This duty cannot possibly be explained in language more impressive than Wordsworth's own—

Here pause: the poet claims at least this praise, That virtuous Liberty hath been the scope Of his pure song, which did not shrink from hope, In the worst moment of these evil days; From hope, the paramount *duty* that Heaven lays, For its own honour, on man's suffering heart. Never may from our souls one truth depart— That an accursed thing it is to gaze On prosperous tyrants with a dazzled eye; Nor—touched with due abhorrence of *their* guilt For whose dire ends tears flow, and blood is spilt.