

For our Empire, as for all the rest of the world, the immediate result is loss, but we shall not allow our enemies in this moment of victory to sow dissension between the Allies as a whole, or the various dependencies of the Empire. We have won the war because we have beaten the enemy on sea and land, and those who have renewed the covenant of our sacrifice are knit together as men never were.

But the victory which our friends gave themselves to win has secured the liberties of the world. The theme is too well worn to be set down here; but it is right that we should remind ourselves that we fought for no merely national cause, worthy though that might have been, but for the liberties of mankind. Surely whom the gods will destroy they first of all make mad. There are other things in warfare besides physical might. The foe that makes the first spring has a vast advantage, but in the long run the things that tell are determination and a sense of a just cause. Our enemies left no possibility of doubt as to the side on which right and justice lay. The cause that was first of all so sure of its physical might that it could flout all the ancient sanctions of civilized life can hardly in the name of civilization appeal to the consideration of the victor after the long years of agony. When a whole people believe that obligations have no moral value, and human life in the person of defenceless women and children no claim on human protection; when they hound to death the captives who are helpless and watch without pity the drowning of maimed men and ministering women, it is time they learned the lesson that as men sow so shall they also reap. We should be heedless of the memory of our dead if in any foolish charity we allowed those who are guilty to escape the penalty of their unspeakable crimes. They have affronted the face of the world. The blood of Abel cries out from the ground, not in vengeance but in the defence of the liberties of those who come after us. There are certain sins that carry within them forever the seeds of death. In the ancient kingdom of Ephraim, the sin of Ahab against Naboth was remembered