

Provinces would be the spark which would kindle the greatest conflagration that history has ever witnessed.

Now that the storm has burst and the world realizes what a tremendous organization it has to face, we wonder how it was that the other nations did not see the gathering storm.

On my way out to the Coast, I was reading the biography of Max Schneckenburger, author of "Wacht am Rhein." This hymn, which is to-day sung in all the bivouacs and trenches within the German lines, was written between 1835 and 40. He also wrote several other songs and pieces of poetry. He and his contemporaries were then looking forward to the domination of the world by Germany, and their books are full of this one thought. Let me give you an instance; here is an excerpt from his diary:

"German Switzerland, Alsace, German Belgium, Holland, Denmark, the Baltic Provinces which speak German, will all be reincorporated in the Fatherland. Prussia will assume the direction of this new Germany. As for the old house of Hapsburg, it will no longer play any part, and Austria, whose frontiers will stretch to the mouth of the Danube, will be a slav empire, extending from Pest to the Black Sea and from Prussia to Greece."

Schneckenburger and the German poets, philosophers, essayists and publicists of the latter part of