

# The St. John Standard

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"We are fighting for a worthy purpose, and we shall not lay down our arms until that purpose has been fully achieved"—H. M. The King.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE—Every fighting unit we can send to the front means one step nearer peace.

## SLANDERING THE SOLDIERS.

While the war has produced many heroes, it has also been responsible for a more than sufficient number of people whose mission it appears to be to criticize the men who are doing things they themselves cannot do, and who seem to take a savage delight in speaking in uncomplimentary and untrue terms of the British and Allied soldiers, despite the fact that those same soldiers are preserving for their detractors the right to live in peace and plenty. We do not class Mr. F. B. Carvell in this category; prior to the outbreak of hostilities he slandered Canadian soldiers and British military heroes, but since the whistle of shells and the crack of rifles became familiar sounds in Europe, he has, to give him credit, had the good sense to keep his mouth shut.

In the great Southern Republic, however, there is a woman who, if she lived in war-ridden Europe, would at least be deprived of her liberty as the penalty for her unwise statements. Miss Jane Addams, dubbed by some American newspapers as a "peace mud-dier," delivered an address in Carnegie Hall, a few days ago, in the course of which she declared that soldiers in the British, German and French armies are made drunk before they go to battle. She said: "In Germany they have a regular formula for it. In England they use rum and the French resort to absinthe. In other words, therefore, in the terrible bayonet charges, they speak of with dread, the men must be doped before they start."

No statement more contemptible than this has been spoken from any platform since the war opened. Moreover, it is as untrue as it is unfortunate. Miss Addams forgets that absinthe has been banished from France as has vodka from Russia. We admit that among the British, Canadian and Australian soldiers there are drinkers, but few drunkards. Rum has been served in the British army but only as a medical measure to prevent exhaustion caused by cold, snow and standing in water in the trenches.

It is doubtful if the world's history will show so sober a war. Indeed there is already much evidence to show that the greatest prohibition movement of the ages.

Old and settled habits of the people of France and Russia seem likely to be destroyed. In Great Britain there has been a rigorous suppression and regulation of the liquor traffic, and in Canada the training camps are free from intoxicants; in short it is difficult to see where a bright woman like Miss Addams obtained the information on which to base her statements if, indeed, she was not entirely reckless in making it.

Richard Harding Davis, the well known American novelist and war correspondent, has taken up Miss Addams' statement and in a letter to the New York Times, dealing with it, says:

"In this war the French or English soldier who has been killed in a bayonet charge gave his life to protect his home and country. For his supreme exit he had prepared himself by months of discipline. Through the winter in the trenches he has endured shell, disease, snow, and ice. For months he had been separated from his wife, children, friends—all those he most loved. When the order to charge came it was for them he gave his life, that against those who destroyed Belgium they might preserve their home, might live to enjoy peace. Miss Addams denies him the credit of his sacrifice. She strips him of honor and courage. She tells his children, 'Your father did not die for France, or for England, or for you; he died because he was drunk.'"

Miss Addams' statement, even if well founded, is decidedly unwise. The cause of world peace of which she is a distinguished exponent will not profit by it.

JOHN BULL "GENTLEMAN."

It has been said that adversity reveals character—that it is when the hurricane has beaten the flag to its full length that the device inscribed upon its folds can be clearly deciphered.

ed. As it is with flags so also it is with nations, and there is no doubt but that under the fierce and testing flames of this terrible war the great type and character of all of the nations actively involved in the conflict, as well as the disposition of those nations that are neutral also have been strikingly revealed.

France, that was thought by many to have become incurably decadent and entirely irreligious, has surprised her critics by the fresh vigor of her heroism and the seriousness of her soul.

Belgium, that in recent years had perhaps deservedly enough through her sins in the Congo been execrated has proved that whatever her conduct at that time and place may have been yet it could not be justly taken as the measure of her morality or the sole criterion of her national spirit, for by her splendid sacrifice she has dipped her flag in blood by which alone there is redemption, and today she stands before the world purified and heroic with the martyr's crown upon her brow.

And England, too, which the world has too often unjustly regarded as nothing better than a race of land grabbers and money getters—a nation without cohesion and ready to fall to pieces under the first shock of assault, England has come through these fires as a nation whose separate parts have been cemented together by the indissoluble bond of mutual helpfulness and service, while in the midst of the fires which have threatened the very foundation of her civil institutions, and the are long pillars of her lustro throne, it has been demonstrated to all the world, in spite of all accusations to the contrary, that the Great Heart and Soul of the British race was not set pre-eminently upon the sordid gains of the world's markets, but while using these as was fitting for the satisfying of lower wants and needs, yet in that day when the allied powers of her enemies smote her with cruel and murderous blows her soul echoed true to those imperishable ideals of righteousness which for ages have been known to her monarchs and statesmen and people, and by them commended to the rest of the world.

Never in all the long annals of England has her moral greatness appeared more luminous and impressive than today.

Even Herr Doctor Dernberg, the special representative of the Kaiser to the United States, who was able to make his way home to the Fatherland solely through the chivalry of that nation which he had been doing his utmost to embarrass and undermine, was constrained to confess at Christiana, as he drew near to his journey's end and reflected upon the treatment that had been accorded him by the very people he had been endeavoring to destroy, that "they can be gentlemen over there."

It is to be feared that for the most part the German people have been led astray by the etymology of that word. If indeed it can be affirmed that it was ever known to their professors and rulers. For because a gentleman was originally "homo gentilis" they appear to have concluded that unless they were careful to conduct themselves like "Gentile dogs" the world would lose respect for the manhood and might of the one-time honored Fatherland.

However this may be, it is altogether likely that at the close of the war Germany will be given time and opportunity to reflect upon those sources of moral virtues from which alone the character of men or of nations can be insured against that day of testing which is certain to come to all.

## Germany's Next Move

The Boston Evening Transcript says editorially:

With the fall of Warsaw it has been generally expected Germany would make a whirlwind return of an immense number of troops to the western theatre and attempt there a similar smashing blow to that now administered to Russia. If that is the German intention it cannot happen for some weeks. It is not of course known whether the German plans include pursuit of the Russians to their new

lines. The probabilities are against this, as the Russians will require time for reorganization and the German soldiers have been so terribly sacrificed in the mad assaults they also will require time for rest. In a short series of battles by Mackensen's troops more than thirty-five thousand are reported killed and wounded—nearly a whole army corps out of the seven he commands. It is easy to railroad his men to Belgium, but to make them fight after this exhausting campaign would be a foolish order not to be expected even from the relentless von Hindenburg.

The value of Warsaw to the Germans is far more moral and political than strategic and military. With the bulk of the Russians away in good order, with the territory gained destroyed and wasted, Warsaw must be added to many other places assaulted, the capture of which has brought no advantage that effects the ultimate result. This opinion of many details of the German plan is held by officers high in the German army, who deplore the useless waste of men in order that the ideal of German ruthlessness as a foe may strike the hearts of her enemies. It has only the opposite effect—a tightening of belts and strengthening of determination among the Allies. In the west it makes clearer also what the German maximum amounts to and just what it is to be expected at the hands of von Hindenburg. In the west there will be a better prepared and better trained resistance. And if Germany strikes there in the same savage fashion as she has in Galicia and Poland, she cannot lose less than a half a million soldiers which will bring the German and Austrian losses since May 1 to well over a million men. Even if Germany captured Calais and Paris it will not end the war. Her exhaustion is far more rapid in her mass fighting than that of the Allies. The end of her reserves of men will be clearly visible next spring, while her ally Austria has already called to the colors all men up to fifty-five years of age, those not fit for fighting being assigned to guard duty. Both Germany and Austria are again facing the need of money. The next German loan is required in September. Austria had only a partial success in her second loan. Germany's second loan was practically based on the security of her debts. But as she has only to pay for war to her own people and not to foreign countries to any appreciable extent, her credit is naturally good and must remain so at least for another year.

Italy is greatly worrying Germany's ally, and the whole of Italy, including Trieste and Pola, must very soon be under the Italian flag. The Austrian losses are on the same scale as the German, and still are, in Galicia. Twelve thousand Austrians are reported killed and wounded in a three hours' engagement. A few months of this sort of fighting and the Germans must come to the rescue in great force or Italy will be threatening Vienna. The Bavarians have sent sixty thousand to the Italian front, but ten times that number will be needed if grave disaster is to be averted. While, therefore, the Germans are counting the first year of the war their triumph on points, the second year offers no such promise, and will expose the weakness which in time must lose them the great result. Her losses are draining her to death. As M. Gabriel Hanotaux declares, "Germany's force, following in the wake of the German doctrine, is now on the decline. Now is the turn of justice and right, the truth is already saved."

## Imitating Frederick "The Great"

(From the Rochester Post-Express.)

"It," says Coleridge, "men could learn from history, what lessons it might teach us! But passion and party blind us, and the light which expertly shines only on the waves behind us." It is painfully evident that those who are busy proving "from documents found in Brussels," Belgium's treachery, England's turpitude, and, undoubtedly, Bethman von Hollweg's ineptitude as a blunt truth teller, have learned little from the history of Frederick called the "Great."

It was Frederick who executed his invasion of Saxony by saying "necessity compels me" and "circumstances compel me to march through Saxony to reach Bohemia." Immediately on the occupation of Dresden he searched the archives of that city and published the purely defensive treaties which Saxony, Austria and Russia as proof positive of a conspiracy against Prussia. Frederick's charges, made in 1756, are paralleled by the recent charges of conspiracy on the part of King Edward and Sir Edward Grey. After the "seven years' war" the depth of hatred and contempt for "perfidious Albion," expressed by the author of it, was beyond soundings. Note too that the love of bribery, corruption and spying and the treating of treaties as "scraps of paper" were characteristic of the author of "Anti Machiavel."

All of Frederick's own treaties were in his view innocent and free from ulterior motives while treaties of other rulers were conspiracies against him. Like Shakespeare's Richard the Third, Frederick posed continually as an injured innocent and cried to heaven, as he did in a letter to his sister, against "the band of rogues attacking me from all sides." Even when he invaded Silesia in 1740 he proclaimed his spotless motives and hoped that the harried "people would behave like good neighbors." That was the invasion of "Germany's territory" of the young queen whose lands he coveted and "in the defense of German liberties."

A hasty re-reading of the story of the prince who preached such high virtue in his youth and followed the lure of glory till his death, whose professions of disinterested virtue were disproven by his own minister of state, Count Herberstein, within a year of his death, and whose shallow pretences

## Little Benny's Note Book.

By LEE PAPE

Grandpop calm to see us last night, ma saying to pop before he calm. Now Willyum, for meroys sakes be careful to be pullite to my fathir tonite, yure awiways saying sumthing to make him angry, the ferst thing you no he will be changing his will and leaving awl his munny to sum boddie elts insted of to us.

Well, if the only way I can get into his will is by lissenin to his terribill orignill riddills, let him leave his munny to a hoam for crippled joaks, sed pop.

O, now maybe he wont even try to tell you eny riddills this time, sed ma.

Maybe the moon is made of green limberger, sed pop. And atfir a wile grandpop calm, and he hadent hardly sat down wen he sed, Willyum, see if you can gess the answer to this wun.

Orriaser, hes in agen, sed pop.

Wat say, sed grandpop.

Did I say anything, sed pop, and grandpop sed, Yes, wy dont you speek out insted of tawking to yureself, well, see if you can gess the answer to this, Wy is a house fly like an aeroplane.

O, sed pop.

Wats the differents between a ordnery round piano stool and a chare, sed grandpop.

Willyum, gess rite, sed ma.

I give it up, wat is the differents between an ordnery round piano stool and a chare, sed pop.

Wun leg, sed grandpop.

Wattir, wattir, sed pop.

Willyum, sed ma.

Wats the mattir, dont you care for these riddills, sed grandpop.

O sure, thare wun of the few brite spots in my life, but that wun took me sort of by surprise, sed pop.

You dont need to ikpekt me to tell you eny moar, and I had about 5 moar good wuns for you, to, sed grandpop.

O, lets have them by awl means, sed pop.

No sir, sed grandpop. And he dident, and pop tried to look sorry feeling glad.

have been brushed aside as a refuge of lies by so recent a historian as the Prussian von Raumer, suggests the conclusion that modern German statecraft, at least in its imitation of Frederick as a model, altogether too laboriously literal. Bismarck's arrogant bluntness was more to the modern taste, and his astuteness could be admired. Such exact reproduction looks like the counterfeiting of ancient coins.

## PATRIOTISM.

Let Canadian Patriotism again exert itself. Thousands of farmers are required in the Western Harvest Fields. Crops are greater than ever, wages higher, and months of steady work for all. The East will naturally take care of itself, but the enormous demands of the Western Provinces re-echo throughout the Dominion, and help must come from all quarters. "Save the Country by Saving Its Crops." Canada must supply more products and foodstuffs than ever before—all available help is necessary to accomplish this. Let Canadian Farmers put their shoulders to the wheel and turn their attention to this great National necessity—the urgency and importance of the call must be apparent to all. Farm Laborers' Excursion trains from the Maritime Provinces leave St. John Aug. 17th and 24th. Twelve Dollars to Winnipeg.

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