

wholesale proportions that the next day the factories were opened and now every person in Belgium known to have worked in arms establishments before the war is employed in turning out guns, rifles and explosives with which to slay their own relatives and friends. Workmen in machine factories all over Belgium are also busy turning out all sorts of death-dealing material to be used against their country under threat that failure to work and at top speed will be followed by the appearance of a firing squad, arrest, and speedy death.

And yet Germany calls herself a highly civilized and Christian nation, and the dangerous madman who is her ruler arrogantly announces himself as the viceregent of God.

Mr. T. A. Browne, of Ottawa, in his poem entitled "The Belgian Mother," has very forcibly depicted the bitter sorrows that rack the souls of these martyred people; the first verse runs as follows:

"Hear me, O God, that reignest upon high,
From blood bespattered fields hear Thou my cry;
Hear Thou a Belgian mother's fierce appeal,
Whose torn bosom, 'neath the Prussian heel,
Crimson and breastless challenges thy sky,
Of Christ the merciful demanding why?
Wherefore the murder of my valiant sons?
Wherefore the ravage of my little ones?
Hear me, O Father; Jesus hear me pray;
Shall there be reckoning, shall Prussia pay?"

Yes, thou poor suffering mother; Prussia will be forced to render a terrible reckoning for the shameless actions of her cruel soldiery, but the greatest price she could possibly pay would not erase from thy memory the frightful scenes you have witnessed, nor return to your arms the loved ones who have been so ruthlessly slain.

In regard to the Belgian Relief Fund, some say that Canada has done well in that respect as the fund now amounts to slightly over \$2,000,000. A large sum under ordinary circumstances 'tis true, but when you consider that the savings in Canada on deposit amount to over a billion dollars and are increasing each month, and that in Belgium upwards of four million of her people are on the verge of starvation, you can recognize that \$2,000,000 is but a drop in the bucket. Our share of the world's obligation to Belgium amounts to far more than that. Let us at least strive to do our duty in this respect. "He gives twice who gives quickly"; and bear in mind this one last word,—Belgium is suffering largely for our sake. Common gratitude demands that as far as possible we should endeavor to alleviate her woes.