

subjects choose to embrace. Some of the concrete results of religions have been detrimental to orderly government and have had to be suppressed, such, for instance, as the practice of suttee by Hindu widows, but, in as far as religious rites have not been inimical to the essentials of government, all persons in British territory are free to believe and to worship as they choose.

This toleration is perhaps the greatest proof that Great Britain is as much entitled to claim to be civilised as any nation to-day existing. With the United States, she shares the most universal freedom of belief, and with the United States she holds the best promise for the future.

Along with religious toleration goes toleration of criticism. This is the greatest safeguard of democracy and of civilisation, and the lack of it in Germany is the fundamental cause of her barbarism and of this war. Since the German Empire was erected there has been no free press there, and the lack of it alone has enabled the militaristic powers to deceive the people and to prevent an understanding of democratic ideals which would have made impossible an acceptance of the Philosophy of Force. It is true that in English-speaking countries this freedom has sometimes almost degenerated into licence, but it cannot be misused to such an extent that it