

hand, was not prepared for a campaign like the present, but to-day it was literally true that of the large bodies of men and the tons of stores taken across the Channel so far not a single man or ton of stores had been lost. 'On the roads,' said the Cardinal, 'I continually saw transformed London motor omnibuses and motor lorries of every description—sometimes 200 of them, one after the other—carrying supplies of different sorts to the front. That had to be done on comparatively narrow roads with a paved centre and ditches of mud on either side. As far as the provisioning of the Army is concerned, everything has been carried on as if there were no enemy against which we had to fight. The food was excellent, and the only criticism I heard of our French friends was that English soldiers had too much, and did not need all the food that was sent over.' He wished to express his gratitude, continued the Cardinal, to the Government for opening the way for the provision of Catholic chaplains for the men at the front. At the present moment there were 160 such chaplains, and whereas at one time there was a long waiting list, now he finds his only difficulty is to get as many priests as the Government will permit him to send out. 'Although no one among us is in any doubt as to the ultimate issue of the war, I hope, I think we must admit reluctantly that it is going to be a very, very long business indeed. The position at the front is almost exactly the same as it was three months ago. We have Hill 60 and Neuve Chapelle, but the Germans are nearer Ypres than they were in the month of January.'

IRELAND AND THE WAR.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor James Gallagher, in an article in *T.P.'s Journal of Great Deeds of the War*, deals with the new spirit brought about in Ireland by the war:—

'War has brought peace to Ireland—political peace. . . . The hustings are silent; the citizens fight together in a common cause. A new spirit is abroad, a spirit admirably expressed one day in the House of Commons by Mr. Will Crooks. "God save Ireland." Promptly and spontaneously Mr. Redmond replied: "God save England, too." In one night, seven centuries of Irish discontent were blotted out: the Irish people have ranged themselves whole-heartedly and unasked on the side of England and Scotland and Wales and the Dominions over the Seas. Whilst we [in Dublin] have given of our time and money, even beyond our means, we have made no demand outside our own resources. Up to date, the Dublin National Relief Fund exceeds £20,000; and the total amount of grants made for the relief of distress has been a little less than £3000.' On the question of recruiting, the Lord Mayor refers to the remarkable reception of the Irish Guards' Band and the rush of recruiting that followed its visit, and says the records of the many Irish regiments now at the front are proof sufficient and to spare of the whole-hearted enthusiasm of Ireland. And as evidence of the new spirit, he says: 'There is now being formed in Dublin a Central Recruiting Council that will perform in Ireland the same duties as are being performed in England by the Parliamentary Recruiting Committee, and in this connection great credit is due to Mr. Hedley F. Le Bas, who has been in Ireland for several weeks. This new Council, over which I have the honor to preside, consists of leading Unionists and Nationalists of Dublin.'

THE IRISH DEPUTATION TO PARIS.

In a special article in the *Daily Chronicle*, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., explains the reasons why the Irish Deputation to Paris was sent:—

It became evident to the Irish leaders at an early period in the war, that there was a powerful, well-organised and well-subsidised campaign against their attitude on the war, especially in the United States of America. Only those who read constantly the pro-German organs of America can realise the extent and the unscrupulousness of this campaign. Lies of once enormous and grotesque are being scattered wholesale over America as to the state of feeling and the events in Ireland. Yet one had to take this campaign of men-

dacity and calumny into account, for there is this paradox in America—that the enemies of the Allies are vocal, while the friends of the Allies, who are 90 per cent. at least of all outside certain German centres, remain silent. They do so largely because their scrupulous patriotism and their strong Americanism make them believe that silence is the best method of living up to the President's ideal of absolute American neutrality. We resolved, then, to proclaim the position of Ireland in such a fashion as would make any further misrepresentation more difficult. There was a further impulse behind the Irish mission. Many events, into which I need not go, suggested some doubt as to the position of Catholics in this war in many parts of the world, not merely among German and Austrian Catholics, where it is natural, but among Catholics in other countries.

POISON PREPARATIONS.

How carefully and deliberately the Germans prepared for their new method of waging war by poison is thus described by 'Eye-Witness':—

The manner in which the German press gradually prepared the way for the employment of asphyxiating gas is interesting to note. The papers began by falsely accusing the Allies of using it. When the charge of doing so was brought against the Germans the papers argued that it was as merciful a method of killing as the firing of high-explosive. When certain French writers advocated retaliation in kind the German press replied with glee that Germany had forestalled the Allies by her scientific experiments and exhaustive preparations. It is, perhaps, vain to point out to Germany that these arguments are mutually destructive, for a nation in her frame of mind is not amenable to logic; but it is quite certain that the events of the past fortnight have opened a new phase in the struggle. We know now that Germany is bound by no principle, no agreement of any sort or kind; that she is actuated by a spirit of savagery which if not utterly crushed will strike at the very roots of European civilisation; that this is no longer merely a national war, but a struggle of civilisation against barbarism. The scenes that have been enacted during the last few days, the sight of their comrades crawling about in agony, moaning for water, dying in their tracks like poisoned vermin, has roused a feeling in our troops—and, it is to be hoped, through the British Empire—which, however terrible the struggle before us, will not allow us to rest until we have exacted full retribution from those responsible for these horrors.

FROM GERMAN DIARIES.

A summary of admissions of brutality in France from German diaries is given by M. Gomez Carrillo in an article in the *Matin*, describing a visit to a concentration camp of German prisoners:—

As he read out what the men had written or what they ate and drank, our guide smiled. But his smile was only momentary. He had only turned over a few pages when sinister details began to appear. 'Listen,' he said. And the tale of French martyrdom began, cold, methodical, implacable, and incredible. 'By superior orders we shot the inhabitants of a small village.' 'On the 30th we were at Louvain. The appearance of the town was sad. The whole town was ablaze. The students tried to escape, but we did not let one go. We fired on those who were running away.' 'A child on the doorstep of a house, where some Belgian soldiers were hiding, was run through with the bayonet, and the grimace on its face made us laugh.' 'The inhabitants came together into the church in order to evade our requisition orders. So we had to fire their refuge without letting anyone go out. All perished in the flames.' 'Women lying dead on the Varredes road looked like frogs stretched on their back.' 'At Langewillier the Saxons hanged some women to the tree branches. Three of them were young and pretty, and as they passed near them the soldiers pulled at their feet. Others swung them to and fro.' 'Parux is the first town that we burned. Then the dance began. One town after another went through it.'

H. LOUIS GALLIEN, Chemist & Druggist

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