By Athens at Salamis. When a cruel aggression was made against Persia and in these by Germany, brave men to drive back and punish the invaders will never be found wanting. What is true of Sparta is also true of Turkey, against whom we are now fighting, for Turkeys as well as Turks are nations of fighters whose contribution to the advance of civilization has been a little less than nothing at all.

Too Late to Talk of Peace.

"Since you have asked me for my opinions regarding the war in general, I should like to say a word or two upon the topic of peace, now that it has been broken out.

Please do not mistake me. I believe, but cannot approve by those who attempt to follow out the teachings of Christ. We are all to blame in every nation for allowing the Church to grow and thrive. But when war has once broken out the position is altered. When I hear that a criminal has been hanged I grieve that we have not had the man's place. I believe, that having been deprived of a civil position, we have allowed him to become like and act like a brute. It is too late to talk of peace."

The Churches Have Tried to Serve God and Mammon.

"You must hold, then, that the abdication of Christian ethics has been at bottom the cause of this war?"

"Yes, I do. It is perfectly plain that Germany has for some decades cast Christ aside in the wind, all international and official circles. Had the churches throughout the world exercised their influence always on the side of peace this terrible situation might have been averted. But a rule was set which the churches, not done in their duty. They tried to serve both God and Mammon at the same time. Fearing to be thought unappreciative they have smiled upon a system of force in a manner nothing short of Treason Against Christ's Teaching.

"It must never be forgotten that He recognized lines neither of nation nor of colour, and so far from using force He suggested on a certain occasion that two gates were too strong, and then directed the man who used them. I may be mistaken, but I believe it is utterly and eternally wrong for ministers of the church to discard their true uniform and to neglect to wear their official military titles. By all means let them be at the front to comfort the suffering and the dying and restrain men in the midst of barbarism from such acts as have caused the deaths of those who belong to the International Army of their Master, and to that alone. Tigers, however, have burst through our ranks, and there is nothing for it but to kill. We now fight to prevent the further existence of such a force. If the army be defeated then all this blood and money has been poured useless into the earth."

Hang Them Like Criminals.

"Don't you think the real perpetrators of the criminal outrage should be brought to book?"

"Well, I am by no means a bloodthirsty man, as everybody knows, but I do sincerely wish that the men primarily responsible should be hanged. They have been hanged for the crimes they are. I would have no nonsense about honours of war, for I regard these men as offenders against society."

Hang Them Like Criminals.
Helping the Belgians.

"They have used Belgium cruelly?"
"Yes, but in reference to Belgium, now that Germany has definitely added it to her empire, I am not sure that we are wise in sending our money into that unhappy country. We should, of course, assist Belgian refugees in England and in the countries of the Allies, but any surplus moneys should, in my opinion, be funded until the time when Belgians return to their own land. Then, indeed, the money will be necessary to set them up again on their farms and in their businesses; for when the excitement is all over we are apt to forget those whose sufferings will be almost as great for many a year to come. At present the Belgians form the ‘thin red line of heroes;’ when peace is established it will be necessary to do more than ask after the welfare of their souls.

Disturbers of the Peace.

"It is no time to discuss the terms of peace at present, but I sincerely hope that a system of international referendum will be adopted by which every community will have the right of saying under what flag it desires to live. This will be the beginning of a new ‘politik,’ which will tend more and more to make war impossible. It should be remembered that every nation contains Bernhardis and von Trietschkes. Such men should be regarded, not as patriots, but as disturbers of the peace, and should be treated as such."
A Foul Blow.

“America does not seem anxious to help in treating them as criminals?”

“My feeling about America is this. I have no desire to see her dragged into our quarrels, but I did expect that President Woodrow Wilson would have expressed plainly his abhorrence of Germany’s breaches of international law. We ask no more from America than moral support, and it does seem to me that official America ought without question to have protested against the breach of Belgium’s neutrality, against the destruction of buildings and works of art which are the property of the world, and against the abominable treatment meted out to women and children and non-combatants. It is no breach of neutrality when you are watching a prize fight to protest, and protest loudly, against the delivery of a foul blow.”

No Doubt About the End.

“As to the final result of the war, I have no misgiving. I still believe that God’s in His Heaven, but the terrible waste of young and vigorous lives is heartbreaking, and these awful losses have shown clearly to the most obtuse that the ‘dysgenics of war’ is the only title which the future sociologist will dare to affix to his chapter on civilisation.”