**Casement to Alice Stopford Green**

**14 September 1914**

**NYPL Maloney IHP**

New York.

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My dear Woman of the Great Heart,

 Your letters came as joys in hours of deep sadness. The letter of 29th Augt reached me on 12th - Up to the 5 Sept I had some hope - but the rout from Paris of the great advance kills hope. I see the doom of Germany! I have indeed seen it all along - but there was hope while the advance went on. Now the beasts of prey will have the corpse - or rather the hyenas will!

 As to Redmond, T.P. O'Connor & all that gang - they are real liars & rascals - & the debauchery of the Irish mind by this atrocious imperial appeal will have fatal results. No National sense can survive. It will be a far poorer & mean Ireland. Ireland will emerge from this war than the reptile that crept out of the Napoleonic war into the famine of 1822.

 There may even be another famine! England will take our foodstuffs, just as she will take our young men for her own greedy gains. We have no men to spare to fight the English battle of robbing Germany of her trade & destroying her navy. Even did any of the profit or plunder of the defeated race come to Ireland I should still, as an Irishman oppose the war on grounds of national morality. It is a conspiracy against the one people in Europe England feared for their virtues not for their faults. It is not "German Militarism" angers her, or that she has joined the two mercenary bullies Russia & France in assailing - but German anti militarism.

 German commerce, German industry, German naval efficiency & seamanship. There would have been & could have been no war but for England. She as surely made this war as she did the Boer war - & for exactly the same end. The whole game for years has been "When & How". I have heard it discussed again & again in the F.O. & the game there was to deceive Germany - I shall never willingly set foot on English soil again or harbour friendship for the race or country. They are cowards & assassins at heart. Witness Lord Curzon's speech of vilification of the German Emperor the other day - & the daily jeers & jibes telegraphed over here of English "Gentlemen".

I found in your husband's "Letters" a remark that I have often thought of in this war - it was that in going deeper & deeper into the material for his history in its earlier portions about the Anglo-Saxons in England he found the story "nastier and nastier" - he found the people less and less loveable. Is it not an enduring characteristic?

 I have kept cuttings of the "interviews" with "Tommy Atkinses" from the front cabled over by special correspondents here & printed at length with only one exception they reveal the mind & heart of the cur and cad. Never a chivalrous thought or generous word - but boast, brag & lie. The one exception was - where do you think? The Dublin Fusiliers! At Boulogne. The correspondent reported "with surprise" that the wounded men "praised the Germans and spoke admiration of their artillery" - and confessed they had been driven out of their trenches! How deplorably treacherous on the part of those poor Dublin slum boys.

 But it won't come off - the Irish & Germans here will see to that part anyhow. The British authorities here are spending money like water.

 Spies everywhere! The latest piece of strategy is gangs of "boosters" hired to go out round the newspaper offices & cheer for "Little Belgium". Gangs of public house loafers are engaged secretly at the Consulate general & invest the Notice Boards when the News is given out & hustle pro-Germans on. I sent two off, with roars of laughter on Saturday from the crowd & they retreated discretely.

 The opening of all German letters on neutral ships; the seizing of neutral ships and taking off of any passengers they "suspect"; the constant violations of neutrality here by England in sending out messages & supplies to her warships - & the barefaced lying going on in the U.S.A. press in her behalf are the most sickening exhibitions of her innate cowardice - she is not satisfied with having got Russia France, Belgium, Servia and Japan on the back of the Germanic peoples - but she would like dearly to have the Americans, the Italians and the brave Balkanites.

 I send you some literature - I wonder if it will reach you.

No. 1 is printed 50,000 here & gone all over the land - & to all Govt & Parliament men & universities.

No. 2 is a broad sheet will make you laugh.

No. 3 - is an item of the Irish Press bureau output -

P. Colum & wife called on Saturday on their way to Pittsburg with latest news.

(No. 1 by the way is being sold in the streets by the newsboys - the British "boosters" get very angry when they see it being bought)

 There is not much good in my going back. Feeling as I do about this war of cowardice & greed how could I keep silent. I am bound to speak out & to pray my country to abstain - that should be done in any case by some of the Prov. Committee. It is monstrous that in this downfall of all national feeling & morality no man should stand out to say at all costs where Ireland's honour duty and morality lead. If I return I say it openly & at once - at least if we cannot fight for our soul we can plead for it.