

## ANOTHER GERMANY THAT WE MUST NOT FORGET

The Journal has had occasion to point out that a very large proportion of Canadians of German ancestry have no sympathy whatever with the kaiser in the present war. This is also true of many German-Americans, despite the attempt of the New York Staats-Zeitung and many individual contributors to newspapers and magazines to bolster up the cause of the Berlin government.

There is a danger that the noisiness of the latter will deceive the public as to the attitude of the majority of people of German antecedents. Knowing the circumstances that brought the average person among them to this continent it is hard to believe that even sentimental considerations would lead them to wish success to the Prussian arms.

The first emigrants from the fatherland that Canada and The United States received were those who were forced about the middle of last century to flee from it because they had espoused the cause of political freedom.

One of them was Carl Schurz, who just escaped with his life from Germany and who in course of time became a great political and journalistic force in the republic. He served it on the field of battle during the civil war, rising to the rank of major-general. He was a member of the United States senate and later of the cabinet. But perhaps the greatest influence that he has exerted was as one of the editors of the New York Post.

It is a great pity he did not live a few years longer. There can be no doubt where he would stand today. But the great paper with which his reputation is most closely associated and that has done so much to keep faith alive in the ultimate triumph of real political liberty and sane political thinking has been true to the traditions which he and his associates left it. No journal published under the British flag has more unreservedly condemned what the kaiser and his ministers have done or given such emphatic approval of the position adopted by Great Britain.

Its present editor, Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard, is the son of Henry Villard, the man who gave his wealth to make such a paper possible. The father came to America a poor German boy and he and Schurz stood for the best that their native land has contributed to the life of this continent and when the younger Villard writes as he does in the columns of the Post and again in a signed article which appears in the September American Review of Reviews it is certain that he speaks for the majority of those living in the New World who have German blood in their veins.

The Journal wishes that it had space here to quote the whole of the Review of Reviews' article. But these two paragraphs are perhaps sufficient:

"For a German-American" writes Mr. Villard, "whose heart goes back to the country that gave him or his fathers birth there should be no difficulty in deciding where his sympathies should lie, if he be truly an American citizen. Sorrow as he must for the German masses, if he places reason above emotion and sympathy, he can but withhold his support from the kaiser who approved in principle the Austrian ultimatum to Serbia and made no better than a dicer's oath the solemn promise of the empire to respect the neutrality of Belgium. If he be loyal to the principles of this republic the German-American can only hope that absolutism has brought about its own downfall; that this may mark the end of kaisers, as of great armaments. If he has owed anything to the great minds of Germany, its men of peace, of knowledge, science and art, let him now pay the debt by being true to their ideals. He might well remember that Goethe himself faced a German army, when it had been beaten by ragged French republicans, to assure it that then and there a new epoch had begun.

"The immeasurable sins of the rulers of Europe and their militarists can only be expiated now by the beginning of a new epoch which shall mean that the masses shall be the kings of Europe as they are the rulers with us today; that the last vestiges of feudalism shall be swept away to make room for government by and for the peoples."

These ringing words must strike a responsive chord in the breast of every German-

Canadian who has come to this country from the right motives, for, with the British flag, beneath which he has received so much that was denied him across the sea, under attack, he has more reason even than the German-American to take sides resolutely against the Prussian autocracy.

But they also deserve to be borne constantly in mind by the rest of Canadian citizens who are too apt to view with suspicion all who bear German names or speak the German tongue.

Unfortunately there have been those who justified the doubts entertained regarding them. But the vast majority, we believe, are thoroughly loyal to the land of their adoption and the principles of government that it stands for.

Mr. Villard's declaration should show what a cruel injustice we are guilty of when we speak of all Germans as if they were our enemies. Our fight is not with them but with the Hohenzollern dynasty.