

words in their context. I will here repeat what I said, with the risk that I may again be misunderstood :

"There is an invisible power in this world which may be called destiny, or, to use a vague anthropomorphic term, Providence, or in religious language, God. Frederick the Great used to say that God is not neutral, he is always on the side of the stronger battalions, and that as a rule is true, but sometimes he sides with the weaker against the stronger, as for instance at Marathon and Salamis. God favors the weaker side if it is led by intelligence and, as it were, promises to promote by its victory the cause of mankind. In the present war the Germans have proved themselves worthy of victory not only by their indomitable courage in battle, being ready to conquer or to die, but also by remarkable foresight in making up for their needs by new inventions. In the moment of dire need the busy Bertha appears unexpectedly before the hostile forts, the German submarines accomplish feats of great daring which heretofore could not be accomplished, and agriculture is improved to such a degree as to make Germany practically independent of the importation of cereals.

"God is neutral ; but I am convinced that, being impartial, he will stand by Germany in spite of the odds that count against her."

There are probably as many views of God as there are persons using the word, and I hope that my readers know what I mean by the term. God is not an individual, not a creature, not a bodily existence, not an ego entity. God is the All-Being ; He is the norm of existence ; He is the law and order of the world. Thus He is the directive principle of the universe. He is neither matter nor energy, but that third and more important factor of existence, the determinant. All laws of nature are parts of God ; they are the eternal thoughts of God ; but among the laws of nature those which constitute the moral world order should be regarded as characterizing God's nature most truly.

I have written a book on God, but Mr. Mangasarian cannot have seen it, otherwise he would have understood what I mean when I say that God is neutral. But being as absolutely neutral as is for instance the law of gravitation, "He will stand by Germany in spite of the odds that count against her." Why? Because the Germans are superior to the Allies in energy, efficiency and foresight—indeed in every respect except numbers ; and quality is always decisive, not quantity.

If Mr. Mangasarian were pro-German he would perhaps not have misunderstood me ; but he is a native Armenian, hence he is anti-Turk ; and the "unspeakable Turk" being an ally of Germany, he is anti-German, and so he does not try to understand me. He believes he has caught me in a contradictory statement, and accuses me of obscurantism. He promises to print in his leaflet my answer to his criticism, but if he does not deem it acceptable I absolve him of obligation.

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#### BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTES.

A remarkable little volume of German war songs, of which Hanns Heinz Ewers is the author, has been published by *The Fatherland* of New York. The first poem represents the Germans as saying :

"We have been silent in the council of the world  
Once, twice and again.  
We stood aside and avoided the deed,  
Once, twice and again.

We have never, no never, been in a hurry  
 When the earth was divided away;  
 We heard the others hoarsely cry,  
 We wanted peace, we stood aside,  
 Once, twice, thrice and again.

There is another poem dedicated to U. 16 and Z. 3, glorifying the German aerial and submarine warfare. The third poem in the collection has three verses; the first begins, "We must conquer"; the second, "We will conquer"; and the third, "We shall conquer."

Another poem describes the poet's home on the banks of the Rhine. It has been converted into a hospital, and the vivid description of the patients, in the poem, reflects German patriotism.

Other songs are dedicated to the good ship Emden and the three Counts Spe, three German naval heroes of the war; another one is addressed to Sweden, and expresses the belief that she will join the Germans in their war on Russia. Another song is written in the happy style of folk poetry, with the refrain, "Comrade, whence dost thou come?" One of them answers, "Come from Poland," describing how bloody the fight; the second, "Come from the Wasgen woods"; the third, "Come from the Carpathians"; the fourth, "Come from Mazuria"; the fifth, "Come from the North Sea, swam on the Blücher"; and finally the question is asked, "Comrade, whither wilt thou go?" and he answers,

"Into the enemies' land,  
 As soon as my wound is healed  
 Will fight again, in blood we must stand,  
 In war we must walk in blood  
 Above our shoes."

In the appendix of the book are translated some American Yiddish and Irish poems into German. The first is the Irish Hate Song addressed to England; another poem is addressed to William II, the Prince of Peace, and in addition there are songs in which the Jew addresses Russia, ending with the fulfilment of the curse which lies on the Muscovite Empire—the curse of the long-suffering Jews—and their curse will be Russia's doom.

The poet is not yet much known, but he has published a few works which seem to be original and interesting. They are all written in German and are indicative of a promising poetical genius. The poet is apparently a German by birth and an American by naturalization.

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An intensely interesting and important book has been printed in New York by Robert M. McBride & Company, on *American Rights and British Pretensions on the Seas*. The book contains the facts and the documents, official and other, and bears upon the present attitude of Great Britain toward the commerce of the United States, and has been compiled with an introductory memorandum by William Bayard Hale.

The work contains chapters on the following subjects: The First Encroachments; The Summit of Arrogance; Ships and Cargoes Stopped at Sea; The Case of Cotton; Indirect Interference with Trade; Interference with Communication; Our Larger Interests; List of Ships Detained; Quotations Pertinent to the Issue; Official Documents; and Diplomatic Correspondence.

The book shows the British policy and its claims which are without any recognition of international law. It is strange what the United States has submitted to. The list of ships detained in British harbors spreads over ten pages of large quarto! While our commerce suffers, the British Empire reaps all the advantages of having the United States as a source of supply for its munitions of war. Subservience to Great Britain is now regarded in America as patriotism.

The book is for sale at book-stores and news-stands for one dollar.