

AUX ARMES!

Australians! Do you want to become a military nation by forcing your statesmen to bring in conscription?

Then stay at home.

Do you believe in the voluntary system, the breaking down of militarism? Do you believe in right against might? Do you want to prove to the world that your greatest efforts are to secure a lasting peace, force a general disarmament, and give a chance to human toil to secure the fruits of its labor?

Then enlist now.

We require all our moral and physical courage. But we can do it. Proclamations by the Allies are to secure a lasting peace and free the world from armaments inane craze. This should be the greatest incentive for all the classes to make a superhuman effort to end for ever the present outburst of fanatical racial destruction raging over Europe.

Come on! Now is the time. Do not lag behind. It is no want of bravery that keeps you here. I know you better.

It is indifference.

I heard the expression everywhere: "The boys' doing well. They will pull through!"

They will; but you can save thousands of those brave men's lives. You can shorten the struggle considerably. You can relieve much suffering and misery by enlisting now. There is danger—great danger, for civilisation, freedom, and justice.

Come now!

As I am writing I can see wrecked Belgium, unhappy, Servia a sea of humanity, calling to heaven to relieve their burning intense suffering, women with babies in arms, pictures of despair, calling to you to deliver them from this hell on earth. Act at once and say, "Hold on, I am coming. I will deliver you or die in the attempt."

Come on, everyone that possibly can. I am not asking you to go while I stay behind. I am a fully trained man, having served five years in the French Foreign Legion, and a dozen scraps in South American Republics. I hate

Foreign Legion, and a dozen scraps in South American Republics. I hate militarism because of its fanatical rivalry, insensate sense of superiority through increased armaments, cruelty, and misery inflicted under the principle of discipline and absolute surrender of freedom of thought or actions under its rule.

But we must fight to-day to crush this tyrant; to destroy and pulverise this cancer, the greatest scourge that has ever visited this planet, and to this end is the call to arms (aux armes).

On the 24th of this month you will see a Russian by birth, but a lover of liberty over 42 years of age, married, and a father asking the recruiting sergeant, Rockhampton, for a rifle to defend your country, Humanity, and Justice.

Come on! To arms and Servia.

ANDRE TOLSTOI.

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