

The burning of Cork surpasses in grim horror and fierce injustice the crime of Louvain. The little academic city of the Belgians was given over to arson and pillage in the name of the German Empire, and under direction of the German military forces, whereupon England roused the entire world with her passionate denunciation of the crime of the ages. Now she has herself committed a super-crime, not in the name of any authorized government agency, but in the name, spirit and principle of anarchy. Maliciously the English Parliament squints at its own agents, clothed by it with omnipotence and irresponsibility, and encourages Bolshevist practices that to-morrow will come home to London with sanguinary interest, in as far as the loot of London surpasses that of Cork, and the red-eyed rage of its dumb masses can work out in deeds of horror that will make the ashes of Cork look like a playground.

If this be the liberty that the English government would force upon Ireland, who can blame the immense majority of the Irish people for rejecting it, backs to the wall. Better a thousand times to die by the bullets of English anarchy in defence of true liberty than to yield a poltroon, abject compliance with the dictates of a drunken English police, gathered in the scums of London, petted like hired gladiators, and turned loose upon a great religious and peaceful nation to which for over a thousand years all western mankind is debtor beyond calculation or payment, and whose affectionate children are scattered the world over, wherever English accents are heard.

When will this berserker orgy of the English Coalition Parliament cease? Masked by the man of "nimble politics" but cowering beneath the whip of Carson and a small rump of

discredited and disintegrating Irish Protestants in a corner of Ulster, disavowed by their fellow Unionists of the south of Ireland, <sup>it</sup> was described yesterday by Mr. A. G. Gardiner of London as "the basest House of Commons that has been known within living memory, a Parliament composed of the dregs of all the worst motives of war, hate, greed, and ignorance." Was it to breed in Ireland the anarchy we are fighting from New York to San Francisco that millions of American youth crossed the ocean and fought to save England from her near destruction by the Kaiser? Shall we sit by with folded hands and silent lips while a great mercantile seat like Cork is levelled to the ground? When the Goths burned Rome, when Robert Guiscard burned it again, and when Charles V surpassed both, it was done in the name of law and order, the cruel law and order of conquest, but still proclaimed and enforced, fierce and bloody as were its rules, and inhuman as were its sanctions.

But in Cork wild-eyed Anarchy wearing the insignia of English authority, its agents encouraged and abetted by the English Parliament, though unnamed and irresponsible, waves the torch, pours the oil, casts the bomb, cuts the fire-hose, shoots up the peaceful and unarmed city, and retires to its lorries and its barracks, waiting for another black night to repeat this Saturnalia of murder and arson and loot. All this in the name of the law and order of England, all in the name of its sinister liberty, but really in the name of Cromwell and Ireton who walk the earth again, and cheerfully recognize their own craft, much bettered by the gains of modern science. Was it for this evil pass that we granted relief to England in the matter of the interest on her great war debt to us, that she might support an army of occupation in Ireland, and pay ridiculously thousands of English convicts to burn and pillage a sister nation that asks only its natural and rightful liberty? This last English crime is against civilization, and far surpasses the horror of Louvain.

Shall we be dumb spectators of that sanguinary anarchy which every honest heart in England denounces? Once Prince Albert said that the only solution of the Irish question was to sink the island for one half hour beneath the sea, that its human vermin might be exterminated. Lloyd George knows something better: it shall be made a red cinder.

Let all Washington arise as one man to denounce this unspeakable crime, which is directly aimed at ourselves, for if anarchy can reign supreme in Ireland, by what logic can we repress the anarchy of the I.W.W?