

December 22, 1916.—Mme. Hammelrath thanks Nell and me for what we have done in securing her release from prison at Hasselt. Told us all about it—her efforts to help a man get to the front, her meeting with two ferrymen from Antwerp, her conducting her man to them, arriving just as the German police were conducting a raid, then St.-Gilles, and Hasselt; the cruelty of a German nun who took pleasure in announcing to women that their husbands were to be shot, the kindness of another German woman, the sound of the firing squad in the early morning—one sharp volley; then the sound of two thousand voices singing “The Lion of Flanders,” and the “Brabançonne”—the unemployed being taken to Germany. When they were searching her house, the police found a note I had written long ago to her little daughter Jacqueline to thank her for something she had sent me—and the letter helped her....

Then the regular session, with a long list of grievances against the Germans, breaking their word, not keeping their engagements, seizing food, and so on. And long tales of cruelty to the unemployed. They have taken 250 of the revictualing men in Luxembourg where, by the way, Kaufmann is now Governor-General....

The German paper tonight, *Belgische Kourier*, says that President Wilson has sent a note to all the powers carefully worded, offering his good services for peace. This should do good. We haven't the text of the note.