

By SARAH BERNHARDT

VIVE le Roi Albert ! Héros pur ! Martyr de la foi jurée ! Il s'est avancé, suivi de son tout petit peuple—si grand ! au devant de la horde innombrable des Barbares.

Refusant tous les dons, rejetant toutes les promesses, impassible à toutes les menaces ; des jours et des nuits il a tenu en échec les forbans allemands. Jamais la France ne pourra oublier sa dette de reconnaissance. Mais l'heure du triomphe approche ; et la Victoire qui tient dans ses mains glorieuses la balance de la Justice donnera au Roi Albert et à son vaillant peuple une large part de territoire allemand.

Et les peuples germains soumis aux belges apprendront enfin ce que sont l'honneur et l'humanité.

TRANSLATION

*Long live King Albert ! Spotless hero ! Martyr to his plighted faith ! He went forth, followed by all his little people—the little people that is so great !—to meet the innumerable hosts of the Barbarians.*

*Refusing all gifts, rejecting all promises, dauntless in the face of threats, for days and nights he held the German freebooters in check. Never will France forget her debt of gratitude ! But the hour of triumph approaches ; and Victory, who holds the scales of Justice in her glorious hands, will give King Albert and his valiant people a large share of German territory.*

*Thus Germans under the rule of Belgium will at last learn something of honour and humanity.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely reading 'Sarah Bernhardt', written in dark ink on the right side of the page.