

May 3, 1919.—I went over to the Foreign Office. Found de Broqueville smiling but excited. . . . He said the Flemish activists are already taking advantage of the feeling against us to say that the Germans would have treated Belgium better, and so on. Furthermore, he said that the Government had been told that if it did not sign the peace “as we are instructed”—“you know that we are almost under orders now”—that the revictualing would be cut off. I said to him, “that’s humbug,” that I knew the President had no such intention and would be a party to no such proceeding, and so on. I asked him who had told him that, and he said, shrugging his shoulders, “Do you really want me to tell you?” Bassompierre came in and talked in the same strain; they were very much depressed, and thought that Belgium had been abandoned.

Villiers had told me that having read in the newspapers a

dispatch from Paris to the effect that Lloyd George was to visit Belgium, he had asked de Broqueville, who had said that it was not an auspicious moment, and Villiers had so telegraphed to his Government. I asked de Broqueville if it was true that Lloyd George was coming, and he replied, "I do not know; this is not the moment." Then he told me that Lloyd George had threatened to publish a statement saying that Belgium had not done her part in the war, that Australia, New Zealand, Canada, each had done more, and so on. "That passes my comprehension!" At the end he said that it remained to be seen whether Belgium could fight. He was very much disturbed and expressed the extraordinary state of opinion that exists here in this moment. The Belgians are very childish, of course, very naïve and very excitable; they have never got over the vote for Geneva, and the newspapers, especially the Catholic newspapers, like *La Nation Belge*, *Le XXIème Siècle*, and *La Gazette*, are full of violent articles, abusing President Wilson, calling him a "monster," and so on. It is saddening and depressing.