

Littlehampton Observer 25th November 1914 page 8

Germans : Are They "Brothers ?"

The Rev. C. H. Gough, speaking at the anniversary celebrations of the Littlehampton Brotherhood on Wednesday, referred very strongly and with much eloquence to the attitude of the typical German towards the conflict waging in Europe. In burning tones he condemned a weak bearing by christian people in regard to the Prussian military spirit. Kaisarism stood for the ruin of everything an Englishman held dear, the end of his freedom, the death of his liberty, and whilst the men of Germany upheld the aggressive policy that had caused so much misery and made so many widows and orphans, whilst they connived at the crushing of weaker nations, it was impossible for them to talk of extending the hand of brotherliness to them and not right that they should love them. It was theirs to hate their deeds with a holy hatred till they changed ; for their deeds were evil and should be detested. He was not one of those who would love Satan if he could, a thing which some people seemed as though they would like to be able to do. Could they be certain that they were not the instruments in God's hands to punish the German nation ? Let them pray that a nobler vision should appear to the people across the waters, and that they would end their serfdom ; then it would be possible to treat them as brothers.