

# The Man Without A Country

By Edward Everett Hale

FIRST INSTALLMENT.

[No document in actual American history conveys a more powerful lesson of what citizenship in this republic means, none delivers a more searching appeal to loyalty, than this fanciful recital of the Man Without a Country. The unhappy creature whose living death it has graved upon the memory of mankind was but a figure born of a writer's imagination. Yet, the account of his passionate outburst and of his dreadful expiation stirs the dullest soul, and will awaken emotion in the minds of readers of generations yet unborn. There can be no more arresting lesson for the disloyal or the heedless, no more inspiring appeal to the spirit of true Americanism, than this memorable work of literary art and high-souled patriotism.]

I suppose that very few casual readers of the New York Herald of August 13th observed, in an obscure corner, among the "Deaths," the announcement:

"NOLAN. Died, on board U. S. Corvette Levant, Lat. 2° 11' S., Long. 131° W., on the 11th of May, Philip Nolan."

I happened to observe it, because I was stranded at the old Mission-house in Mackinac, waiting for a Lake Superior steamer which did not choose to come, and I was devouring, to the very stubble, all the current literature I could get hold of, even down to the deaths and marriages in the "Herald." My memory for names and people is good, and the reader will see, as he goes on, that I had reason enough to remember Philip Nolan. There are hundreds of readers who would have paused at that announcement, if the officer of the Levant who reported it had chosen to make it thus: "Died, May 11th, 'The Man without a Country.'" For it was as "The Man without a Country" that poor Philip Nolan had generally been known by the officers who had him in charge during some fifty years, as, indeed, by all the men who had sailed under them. I dare say there is many a man who has taken wine with him once a fortnight, in a three years' cruise, who never knew that his name was "Nolan," or whether the poor wretch had any name at all.

There can now be no possible harm in telling this poor creature's story. Reason enough there has been told now, ever since Madison's administration went out in 1817, for every strict secrecy, the secrecy of honor itself, among the gentlemen of the navy who have had Nolan in successive charge. And certainly it speaks well for the esprit de corps of the profession and the personal honor of its members, that to the press this man's story has been wholly unknown, and, I think, to the country at large also.

I have reason to think, from some investigations I made in the naval archives when I was attached to the bureau of construction, that every official report relating to him was burned when Ross burned the public buildings at Washington. One of the Tuckers, or possibly one of the Watsons, had Nolan in charge at the end of the war; and when, on returning from his cruise, he reported at Washington to one of the department heads who came home—he found that the department ignored the whole business. Whether they really knew nothing about it, or whether it was a non mi ricordo, determined on as a piece of policy, I do not know. But this I do know, that since 1817, and possibly before, no naval officer has mentioned Nolan in his report of a cruise.

## A MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY.

Philip Nolan was as fine a young officer as there was in the "Legion of the West," as the western division of our army was then called. When Aaron Burr made his first dashing expedition down to New Orleans in 1805, at Fort Mastic, or somewhere above on the river, he met, as the devil would have it, this gay, dashing, bright young fellow, at some dinner party, I think. Burr marked him, talked to him, walked with him, took him a day or two's voyage in his flatboat, and in short, fascinated him. For the next year barrack life was very tame to poor Nolan. He occasionally availed of the permission the great man had given him to write to him. Long, high-worded, stilted letters the poor boy wrote and re-wrote and copied. But never a line did he have in reply from the gay deceiver. The other boys in the garrison sneered at him, because he sacrificed in this unrequited affection for a politician the time which they devoted to Monongahela, sledge, and high-low-jack. Bourbon, euchre, and poker were still unknown. But one day Nolan had his revenge. This time Burr came down the river, not as an attorney seeking a place for his office, but as a disguised conqueror. He had defeated I know not how many district attorneys; he had dined at I know not how many public dinners; he had been heralded in I know not how many Weekly Arguses; and it was rumored that he had an army behind him and an empire before him. It was a great day—his arrival—to poor Nolan. Burr had not been at the fort an hour before he sent for him. That evening he asked Nolan to take him out in his

skill, to show him a cane-brake or a cottonwood tree, as he said, really to seduce him; and by the time the sail was over, Nolan was enlisted body and soul. From that time, though he did not yet know it, he lived as "A Man without a Country."

What Burr meant to do I know no more than you, dear reader. It is none of our business just now. Only, when the grand catastrophe came, and Jefferson and the House of Virginia, of that day undertook to break on the wheel all the possible Clarendons of the then House of York, by the great treason trial at Richmond, some of the lesser fry in that distant Mississippi valley, which was farther from us than Puget Sound is today, introduced the like novelty on their provincial stage, and, to while away the monotony of the summer at Fort Adams, got up, for spectacles, a string of court-martials on the officers there. One and another of the colonels and majors were tried, and, to fill out the list, little Nolan, against whom, heaven knows, there was evidence enough, that he was sick of the service, had been willing to be false to it, and would have obeyed any order to march anywhere with anyone who would follow him. He had the order only signed, "By command of His Exc. A. Burr." The courts dragged on. The big files escaped, rightly for all I know. Nolan was proved guilty enough, as I say; yet you and I would never have heard of him, reader, but that, when the president of the court asked him at the close, whether he wished to say anything to show that he had always been faithful to the United States, he cried out, in a fit of frenzy:

"D—n the United States! I wish I may never hear of the United States again!"

I suppose he did not know how the words shocked old Colonel Morgan, who was holding the court. Half the officers who sat in it had served through the Revolution, and their lives, not to say their necks, had been risked for the very idea which he so cavalierly cursed in his madness. He, on his part, had grown up in the West of those days, in the midst of "Spanish plot," "Orleans plot," and all the rest. His education, such as it was, had



"I Wish I May Never Hear of the United States Again!"

been perfected in commercial expeditions to Vera Cruz, and I think he told me his father once hired an Englishman to be a private tutor for a winter on the plantation. He had spent half his youth with an older brother, hunting horses in Texas; and, in a word, to him "United States" was scarcely a reality. Yet he had been fed by "United States" for all the years since he had been in the army. He had sworn on his faith as a Christian to be true to "United States." It was "United States" which gave him the uniform he wore, and the sword by his side. Nay, my poor Nolan, it was only because "United States" had picked you out first as one of her own confidential men of honor, that "A. Burr" cared for you a straw more than for the fat-boob men who sailed his ark for him. I do not excuse Nolan; I only explain to the reader why he damned his country, and wished he might never hear her name again.

He never did hear her name but once again. From that moment, September 23, 1807, till the day he died, May 11, 1863, he never heard her name again. For that half century and more he was a man without a country.

Old Morgan, as I said, was terribly shocked. If Nolan had compared George Washington to Benedict Arnold, or had cried, "God save King George," Morgan would not have felt worse. He called the court into his private room, and returned in fifteen minutes, with a face like a sheet, to say:

"Prisoner, hear the sentence of the court. The court decides, subject to the approval of the president, that you never hear the name of the United States again."

Nolan laughed. But nobody else laughed. Old Morgan was too solemn, and the whole room was hushed dead as night for a minute. Even Nolan lost his swagger in a moment. Then Morgan added: "Mr. Marshal, take the prisoner to Orleans in an armed boat, and deliver him to the naval commander there."

The marshal gave his orders, and the prisoner was taken out of court. "Mr. Marshal," continued old Morgan, "see that no one mentions the United States to the prisoner. Mr.

Marshal, make my respects to Lieutenant Mitchell at Orleans, and request him to order that no one shall mention the United States to the prisoner while he is on board ship. You will receive your written orders from the officer on duty here this evening. The court is adjourned without day."

I have always supposed that Colonel Morgan himself took the proceedings of the court to Washington City, and explained them to Mr. Jefferson. Certain it is that the president approved them, certain, that is, if I may believe the men who say they have seen his signature.

The plan then adopted was substantially the same which was necessarily followed ever after. Perhaps it was suggested by the necessity of sending him by water from Fort Adams and Orleans. The secretary of the navy was requested to put Nolan on board a government vessel bound on a long cruise, and to direct that he should be only so far confined there as to make it certain that he never saw or heard of the country. We had few long cruises then, and the navy was very much out of favor; and as almost all of this story is traditional, as I have explained, I do not know certainly what his first cruise was. But the commander to whom he was entrusted—perhaps it was Tingey or Shaw, though I think it was one of the younger men—we are all old enough now—regulated the etiquette and the precautions of the affair, and according to his scheme they were carried out, I suppose, till Nolan died.

When I was second officer of the Intrepid some thirty years after, I saw the original paper of instructions. I have been sorry ever since that I did not copy the whole of it. It ran, however, much in this way:

"Washington," (with the date, which must have been late in 1807).

"Sir—You will receive from Lieutenant Neale the person of Philip Nolan, late a lieutenant in the United States army."

"This person on his trial by court-martial expressed with an oath the wish that he might never hear of the United States again."

"The court sentenced him to have his wish fulfilled."

"For the present, the execution of the order is intrusted by the president of this department."

"You will take the prisoner on board your ship, and keep him there with such precautions as shall prevent his escape."

"You will provide him with such quarters, rations, and clothing as would be proper for an officer of his late rank, if he were a passenger on your vessel on the business of his government."

"The gentlemen on board will make any arrangements agreeable to themselves regarding his society. He is to be exposed to no indignity of any kind nor is he ever unnecessarily to be reminded that he is a prisoner."

"But under no circumstances is he ever to hear of his country or to see any information regarding it; and you will especially caution all the officers under your command to take care that, in the various indulgences which may be granted, this rule, in which his punishment is involved, shall not be broken."

"It is the intention of the government that he shall never again see the country which he has disowned. Before the end of your cruise you will receive orders which will give effect to this intention."

"Respectfully yours,  
"W. SOUTHWARD,  
"for the Secretary of the Navy."  
(TO BE CONTINUED.)

## WAS A MAGNANIMOUS PAGAN

Saladin, Conqueror of Jerusalem, Did Not Shed Drop of Christian Blood When City Fell.

It was in 1193 that Saladin died in Damascus, leaving behind him a reputation for magnanimity unique in that age, and only exceeded by his fame as a warrior.

It was only six years before his death that Saladin defeated Guy de Lusignan, the Christian king of Jerusalem, and obtained possession of the sacred city, which had been captured by the Crusaders 88 years before. The golden cross was pulled down and dragged through the streets of the city, and the Mosque of Omar, which had been consecrated to Christ, was restored to the worship of Mohammed. But not a drop of Christian blood was shed after the capitulation. Instead of butchering thousands of the inhabitants, as the Christians had done after conquering the city, Saladin ordered that none should be harmed. The weeping queen was treated with great consideration, and Saladin was so moved by her misery that he is said to have shed tears of sympathy. Later, during the third crusade, the Christians under Richard Coeur de Lion besieged in cold blood 5,000 Saracen hostages, and Saladin revenged himself upon Christians in his power. On the whole, however, he was vastly better than most of the rulers of his time.

**Whales.**  
Whales are able to attain such an enormous size because their bodies are supported by the water in which they live. A bird is limited to the weight which its wings can bear up in the air. A land animal, if it becomes too large, cannot hold its body off the ground or readily move about, and is doomed to certain destruction. But a whale has to face none of these problems and can grow without restraint.

Because whales live in a supporting medium their young are of enormous size at birth, in some instances the calf being almost half the length of its mother. I once took a 25-foot baby which weighed about eight tons from an 85-foot blue whale.—Exchange.

## Not Very Religiously.

Physician—"Did your husband follow my directions, taking his medicine religiously?" Wife—"I fear not, doctor. He swore every time I gave him a dose."—Puck.

## Stickin's.

When a boy asks his mother if it is wrong to play marbles for keeps, it is a safe bet that he has come home with more than he started out with.

## GERMAN FIRST LINE AGAIN CUT

British Advance to the East of Gricourt.

## GERMANS AGAIN COUNTERING

Gen. Nivelle's French Forces Capture a Fortified Position Near the Chemin des Dames, Fronting Laon, Their Chief Objective.

London.—Once more the great battle in the west has resolved itself temporarily to a nibbling process on the part of the French and British and incessant counter-attacks on the part of the Germans. The latter still hold Fresnoy village, retaken by them from the Canadians, while in and around Bullecourt fighting is continuous, with constantly alternating fortunes.

Sir Douglas Haig reported further progress by his troops near Bullecourt and added that "costly efforts of the enemy to shake our hold on his positions" were fruitless. South of the Souchez River the British cut a new piece out of the German first line, while they also advanced to the east of Gricourt.

American aviators with the French Army have brought down six German airplanes since April 6.

## Latest Official Report.

The Berlin War Office asserted that all British and French attacks were beaten off with heavy casualties to the assailants and emphasized that "Fresnoy remained entirely in our hands in spite of repeated British attacks."

The official report from British headquarters in France reads:

"We advanced our line slightly on the south bank of the Scarpe. Under cover of a heavy bombardment, the enemy renewed his attempts upon our positions in the Hindenburg line, east of Bullecourt. His attack was completely repulsed by our troops."

"Further hostile counter-attacks near Fresnoy were equally unsuccessful. A party of the enemy raided our trenches southeast of Ypres; a few of our men are missing."

## The French Operations.

Paris.—The official communication issued by the War Office reads:

"Northeast of Soissons and on the Chemin des Dames the artillery fighting was intermittent, except in the sector of La Rooyere and north of Braye en Laonnois, where the two artilleries displayed great activity. We carried out detailed operations which proved of value to us. North of Sancy particularly we captured an enemy trench system and took about 20 prisoners. In the sector of Chevreaux the Germans attempted anew to drive us from the trenches which we gained on May 8; their attacks were broken by our barrage and machine gunfire."

"Our batteries caught under their fire and dispersed enemy troops concentrating in that region. Quite spirited artillery actions occurred south of Moronvillers. Northwest of Prosmes we made appreciable progress and took about 20 prisoners."

## RUSSIA TO SEND MISSION.

Early Departure Of Root For Petrograd Also Announced.

Washington.—Official announcement was made of the coming of a commission from Russia, the personnel of which will be announced later. It was announced that Elihu Root, heading the American Commission to Russia, will go with the distinction of being a special ambassador. The American commission will depart very soon.

## FRENCH FARMERS CALL TO U. S.

Want Troops So Home Workers Can Be Released.

Moulins, France.—The Agricultural Society of the Department of Allier has asked the Minister of Agriculture to propose to the Government of the United States the immediate sending to France of men to replace French farmers who have been mobilized, thus permitting the farmers to return for urgent farm work.

## TURKEY DELAYS AMERICANS.

Men Of Military Age Find Difficulty In Leaving.

Washington.—Americans of military age experience difficulty in leaving Turkey, and the Embassy at Constantinople is making recommendations. An official dispatch received by way of Stockholm says 24 Americans got away, May 4, but 20 men between 18 and 45 were not permitted to depart at the last moment.

## MORE PAY FOR JACKIES.

Amendment Equalizes Navy and Marine Corps With Army.

Washington.—In approving the House bill to increase the navy to 150,000 men and the marine corps to 30,000, the Senate Naval Committee inserted an amendment raising the pay of enlisted men in both services equally with the increases in the War Army bill, which gives a private not less than \$25 per month.

## FLOUR MAY GO TO \$20.

With Food Control It Can Be Cut Under \$8, Says Hoover.

New York.—Herbert C. Hoover, who recently came from Europe to advise the Government on food conditions in Europe, says that without control flour may go to \$20 a barrel before the year is over, but that with control "the present price of flour can be reduced 40 to 50 per cent, and at the same time the producer be treated in a liberal manner."

## WE ARE COMING, UNCLE CY, 50,000 STRONG



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## MINIMUM LIBERTY LOAN BOND IS \$50

It Must Be Paid For in Four Installments.

## McADOO ANNOUNCES DETAILS

Balance To Be Paid In Four Installments, Running To August 30. Bonds Will Be Dated June 15.

Washington.—The \$2,000,000,000 issue of Liberty Loan bonds, Secretary McAdoo announced, will be in denominations of from \$50 to \$100,000, will mature in 20 years and may be redeemed by the Government in 15; will be subject to payment in four installments, and will carry the privilege of conversion into any bonds which may be issued later during the war at a higher rate of interest.

Two per cent of the subscription must be paid on application. The remainder will be paid as follows:

June 28, 18 per cent; July 30, 20 per cent; August 15, 30 per cent, and August 30, 30 per cent.

The bonds will be dated June 15 instead of July 1, the date previously designated, and interest will be payable semi-annually on June 15 and December 15.

## Bonds In Two Classes.

Two classes of bonds will be issued, coupon and registered. The lowest denomination of registered bonds will be \$100, other denominations being \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, \$10,000, \$50,000 and \$100,000. Coupon bonds payable to bearer will be issued in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000.

The present offering, it was announced, will be limited to \$2,000,000,000, and "no allotments will be made in excess of that amount." This disposition finally of reports that Mr. McAdoo had under consideration the advisability of extending the amount of the offer to include a percentage of oversubscription which apparently will result when the subscription books are closed June 15 next.

## May Be Closed Before June 15.

"Applications must be made on or before June 15, 1917," reads the formal announcement, reserving to the Secretary the right in his discretion to close the subscription books at an earlier date. The statement then gives the terms of payment and continues:

"Accrued interest will be payable with the full and final payment (August 30). Provision will be made for the privilege to pay earlier the full subscription price upon terms and conditions determined by the Secretary."

In order that the various payments required for the settlement of this transaction may be completed with the least possible disturbance of monetary conditions, the Secretary will avail himself of the privilege given him by the act to reposit the proceeds of the bonds, in so far as it is practicable, with the various national and state banks and trust companies throughout the country.

Change in the date of the bonds from July 1 to June 15 was made, it was announced, "to avoid adding to the heavy burden of work incident to the July 1 and January 1 settlements."

The second offering of \$200,000,000 in Treasury certificates of indebtedness, it is understood, has about been taken up and another offering may be made within 10 days. From the proceeds an additional loan may be made to Great Britain.

## CHICAGO PAPERS GO TO 2 CENTS.

All Expected To Have Raised Price In Another Week.

Chicago.—Another week is expected to see all Chicago newspapers, the price of which for years has been one cent, selling at two cents, owing to the high prices of paper and all other elements entering into their preparation. The Herald made formal announcement of the advance Tuesday and set the date for next Monday. Other papers admitted that they had decided on similar action.

## TO GIVE NEWS OF AMERICANS.

Red Cross Announces Creation Of A Bureau.

Washington.—Creation of a bureau to supply news of wounded, dead or imprisoned Americans at the front, with W. R. Castle, Jr., of Honolulu, in charge, was announced by the American Red Cross. The first work of the bureau will be to obtain from Germany a list of interned Americans in exchange for information about interned Germans in this country.

## BILLION DOLLARS AMERICAN SHIPS

Measure Contemplating the Construction of 6,000,000 Tonnage

## MAY COMMANDEER PLANTS

Under the Bill Which Will Give the President Sweeping Powers All Other Steel Construction May Be Reduced To Actual Necessity.

Washington.—President Wilson will ask Congress to appropriate immediately \$1,000,000,000 for the construction of 6,000,000 tonnage of American ships to defeat Germany's submarine blockade.

The administration bill, providing for this colossal program and vesting in government heads sweeping powers to make merchant shipping the most powerful factor in winning the war, will be introduced in both houses of Congress and will speedily be rushed through.

With this appropriation a great fleet of steel and wooden vessels will be put into the steamer lanes within a comparatively short time to rush a steady stream of supplies of all kinds to the nation's Allies. The entire program outlined by the shipping board in the proposed legislation will be completed within 18 months, or two years at the most. The legislation would authorize the President to divert to government use the products of every steel plant in the country and would provide for the cancellation of existing contracts between those plants and private consumers. It was explained that perhaps part of the billion-dollar appropriation will be used to indemnify fully parties whose contracts are cancelled.

Only those steel manufacturers will be exempt from the provisions of the proposed law who are needed in other ways for national defense work. Steel mills also will be permitted to supply the railroads with the minimum amount of steel products which are shown to be absolutely necessary to meet the nation's war needs.

Such prompt action is expected by Congress that administration leaders are confident that the machinery for turning out the ships would be set in motion within one month. Large numbers of contracts have been drawn and are ready to be signed when authorization for their construction is given.

No embarrassment on account of labor with which to carry on operations upon a 24-hour basis in shipyards will be encountered. Assurances of the utmost co-operation of the labor masses has been pledged by organized labor's authorized spokesmen.

National defense heads declared that as a war measure the diversion of steel products to ship building would mean the discontinuance of the use of structural steel in high buildings and in bridge building except for military purposes.

## SLAYS WHOLE FAMILY.

Kentucky Farmer Kills Parents, Brother and Sister-in-Law.

Elkton, Ky.—Frank Miller, a young farmer, killed his father, Charles Miller; his mother, Mrs. Betty Miller; his brother, Elmore, and his brother's wife, Amy, and hanged himself. Young Miller notified the authorities here by telephone that he had slain the members of his family and was about to take his own life. "The whole family is dead but me," he told Coroner Bartlett over the wire, "and I will be dead when you get here."

## "UNCLE JOE" CANNON 81 YEARS.

As Vigorous As Ever and Receives Congratulations.

Washington.—Representative Joseph C. Cannon, of Illinois, former Speaker of the House, was 81 years old Monday. Despite his years, "Uncle Joe" apparently is as vigorous and active as ever. He received many congratulations from members of Congress, Government officials and others.

## AMERICANS AGAIN CITED.

Third Mention For Section 1, Of Field Ambulance.

Paris.—Section 1, of the American Field Ambulance, the oldest in the service, has been mentioned in the dispatches for the third time. This section went to Dunkirk in January, 1915, and served later in the Argonne and the Champagne. The new citation mentions particularly brave work at Verdun in the transportation of wounded under fire.

## ARMY ENGINEERS TO GO TO FRANCE

Nine Regiments of Train and Railway Men.

## ON COMMUNICATION LINES

Forces Will Be Volunteers and To Be Raised At Nine Great Railway Centers Of Country.

Washington.—Nine new regiments of army engineers, to be composed exclusively of highly trained railroad men, will be the first American troops to be sent to France. They will "at the earliest possible moment" War Department announced, form communication lines, but special points they will be sent or to because of the submarine menace.

The new forces will be volunteers raised at the nine great railway centers of the country. Each regiment will be commanded by an engineer colonel of the Regular Army, and an adjutant. All other officers will be railway engineers or officials.

The expedition will have a strength of between 11,000 and 12,000 men, each regiment being composed of two battalions of three companies each. Every branch of railway engineering necessary to the building of lines will be represented in the ranks, and the War Department expects a response to the call that will permit a careful selection to be made and insure a force already trained to the minute, an army of engineers in railway operation.

The department statement said: "The War Department has no orders for the raising, as far as possible, of nine additional regiments of engineers, which are deemed a suitable moment for work on the communication. It is requested to press that no speculation be made regarding this force be carried than that given out. All details regarding the force will be given as fast as compatible with the public interests."

## VAWTER IS ACQUITTED

Jury At Christiansburg, Va., But One Ballot.

Christiansburg, Va.—Charles Vawter, former professor at the Polytechnic Institute, was acquitted by a jury in the Montgomery Circuit Court of the murder of Heth, Jr.

The scene that followed the announcement of the verdict baffled the jury. Deputy Clerk Heth, Jr. had not finished reading the jury's decision when Professor Vawter jumped from his chair and clapped his hands in his arms. "The verdict," he shouted, "Oh, glory!"

Attorney R. L. Jordan, of one of Vawter's counsel and a lawyer in the room, with a "Thank God!" sank into his seat.

## KAISER REPLIES TO SULTAN

Invokes Aid Of Almighty To Complete Victory.

London.—A dispatch to the Telegram Company from Berlin gives the reply of Emperor William to the Sultan of Turkey on the German troops. The Emperor's course of his reply, said: "All eyes are turned on the conflict in the west, where enemies, superior in numbers, are seeking a decision."

"Our brave troops are performing deeds such as have been recorded in the annals of all times and of all peoples. Almighty also protect their future and lead them to complete victory."

## CANADA PROFFERS TO

Offers Also To Share Other With United States.

Washington.—Canada has a large reserve stock of military equipment necessary for the equipment of the Canadian War Purchasing mission, made the offer to the United States. Shortage of tentage is to be a serious problem in the mobilization camps for the five draft army, and the Canadian may be found useful.

## MENOCAL IN DANGER

Plot To Assassinate The President Cuba Foiled.

Havana.—An attempt was made to assassinate President Menocal, Cuba, by means of a bomb. Nine arrests were made. The Cuban authorities for the had been investigating a plot to make a new attempt on the life of President Menocal, disgruntled elements of the abortive rebellion.

## AUSTRIA TO SEEK PEACE

Holland Hears "Politicians" France.

London.—The Amsterdam correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company wires that he has from the best of sources a prominent Austrian politician about to leave for Switzerland to peace proposals and that he will be given safe conduct to the order to discuss with the Allies the possibility of peace.