

Autobiography: Women and War

I think I might begin this chapter with the story of Hoover, his saying to me that ^{my life 4/9} it was the only book he had at some ^{point} / in Belgium. In the Hotel where he was was my Life of Lincoln and he thought how much ^{better} I could have done my work if I had lived through a war.

My first consciousness of war was something of the beginning, the elements, the struggle somewhere outside of the field, the realization that the cause lies always decades back. All this began with my Life of Lincoln and I remember how often I thought, I would give ten years off my life if I could have lived through the Civil War. A study of Napoleon's military campaigns ~~which~~ fascinated me as great works of art - my first realization what a battle was - my realization of the long causes and the political and ethical struggles outside of the battle field, more important they seemed to me than the battle field in the Civil War. left me without any feeling of responsibility - something to be done to prevent war. I think I took it more or less as ^a visitation.

Repeat here impression on my Chautauqua trip.

(See Atlantic ~~article~~)

But before that there had come the experience in California at Palo Alto and Dr. Gordon. Here make sketch of Dr. Gordon and my trip with him, how paralyzed I was, how big ^{cause against} the war loomed and how inadequate I felt and was. (Story of the dinner club talk - ^a case against war, and my feeling of humiliation) quote Tom Lamont

The coming of the World War. What I saw on the road.
 (Atlantic article comes in here) The night in Iowa - Junction
 Town - when the news that we had gone into the War came. The
 shock of the Lusitania at the Farm ^{or} and walked the road. Dinner
 at Daniels - President Wilson's talk. He had the sense from the
 study of history that what precipitates a war/^{is a match} - and as he said
 we might wake up any morning and ~~we~~ find ourselves at war - that
 is the match had been struck, as it was struck at Sumter in '61.
 All the faggots were laid, already for the match.

The Peace Conference - the Disarmament Conference.
 War and advertising like the Peace Ship. War and petitions.
 Needs are at the bottom of it - countrys must feed
 The notion that only greed and fear cause wars./ Nothing more
 obvious than the danger points at the Peace Conference were
 Italy and Japan and nothing more obvious than that the strong
 intended to close their ears to these needs, forced them to be
 contented, to be weak, half starved. Let them practice birth
 control. These mechanistic devices, ^{etc} contrary to the nature of
 people, contrary to their ambitions and their sense of their
 right as people as men and women were offered instead of [?]
 of the fundamental things - to get rid of the basic problem -
 close your mind to it.

I think I may make a paragraph on the defeat in my
 undertaking of the case against war and refer to the Black
 Mountains where I sat so disconsolately at the time of my first
 revolt.

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