

The
Willy-Nicky Correspondence

*Being the Secret and Intimate Telegrams
Exchanged Between the Kaiser and the Tsar*

By
Herman Bernstein
With a Foreword by
Theodore Roosevelt



S. B. GUNDY
TORONTO
1918

SAGAMORE HILL

November 6th, 1917.

My dear Mr. Bernstein,

I congratulate you on the noteworthy service you have rendered by the discovery and publication of these letters. They illuminate, with a glare like a flashlight, the dark places of diplomacy of despots; they show what diplomacy in autocratic nations really is, and what it has done and sought to do, right up to the present time. The whole world ought now to understand that the despotism of Germany was one of plot and intrigue no less than of ruthless brutality and barbarism, and that with a cynically complete absence of all sense of international morality and good faith it sought to bend to its purpose of evil the poor feeble

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puppet who at the moment embodied the despotism of Russia. These letters should be made familiar to all civilized peoples.

They show the folly of the men who would have us believe that any permanent escape from anarchy in Russia can come from the re-establishment of the autocracy, which was itself the prime cause of that anarchy—for the governmental condition was so intolerable that they put a premium on the production of lawless violence in the ranks of the lovers of liberty and justice and fair play to all.

They show, furthermore, the wicked folly of all who would now treat with the German despotism for a negotiated peace, a peace without victory, a peace into which the wrong-doer and the wronged would enter on equal terms. This war was made by the militaristic and capitalistic autocracy of Germany, and it was acquiesced in and even promoted by the German socialistic party, which thereby proved

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itself traitorous to the workingmen and farmers of the world. With these documents before them, no Americans who hereafter directly or indirectly support the Prussianized Germany of the Hohenzollerns can claim to stand in good faith for human rights, for equal justice, and for the liberty of small well-behaved nations.

Let me repeat, my dear sir, that in publishing these letters you have rendered a signal service to this nation and to all mankind.

Very sincerely yours,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

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