War's Aftermath

She speaks who should have been a bride:

"The tender, argent moon hath waked Forgotten thoughts anew; The shining hopes I counted dead Dear one, since I lost you.

I saw a man enfold a maid
In loving, warm embrace,
And longed for one to hold me close
And kiss my upturned face.

I saw a mother's radiant gaze
Upon her infant rest,
And yearned to hold a little one
Against my yielding breast.

Ah, Love, you ask not this of me, You ask me not to tread In solitude the lengthening days, My brave, beloved Dead?

Believe me, Dear, I'm loyal still,
But oh, the tide runs strong,
The tide of life, and love and youth,
And bears my soul along.

Pulse-of-my-Heart, you'll understand, And you'll forgive me, too, When to another I yield the lips Whose sweets belong to you!

Ah, yes, you understand, who were
So tender, strong and wise;
And when he comes, who is to come,
Your love will light his eyes."
—M. E. COLMAN.



(B. C. M. Space Contribution)

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