

than half of the world's humanity. The most reliable estimates tell us that these fourteen countries have actually engaged in the war, or in course of training for it, not less than thirty million men. The death loss up to date lies somewhere between four and five millions, and we are told that much of the most violent fighting has yet to be recorded. We are told that in the over-run areas of Poland—and there is not much of it that has not been over-run—there is scarcely to be found a child under seven years of age: for all have perished from lack of food, shelter and raiment. Add to this the butcheries of Belgian and Serbian women and children, and the forcible abduction of French women, and still the ghastly tale is only beginning to be told! Could Canada, as part of the British Empire, have remained inactive as an interested bystander only? I think not. It is as true of this country as it was of ancient Rome in a great crisis:

My voice is still for war.
 Gods! can a Roman senate long debate
 Which of the two to choose, slavery or death!

And so our brave Canadian boys crossed the sea to do battle on the fields of France. In Shakespeare's *King John*, we find words that, though referring to an event now seven hundred years ago, can most fittingly be applied to our own men:

Be thou as lightning in the eyes of France;
 For ere thou can'st report I will be there,
 The thunder of my cannon shall be heard;
 So hence! be thou the trumpet of our wrath.

On many a hard fought field, demanding the maximum of courage and endurance, the officers and men of the Canadian expeditionary force lived up to the Scriptural injunction—quit you like men, be strong. There was no eye that faltered, there was no heart that weakened, there was no muscle that trembled. Each one of our men could speak of himself in the words of Scott:

I have seen war's lightning flashing,
 Seen the claymore with bayonet clashing,
 Seen through red blood the war-horse dashing,
 And scorned, amid the reeling strife,
 To yield one step for death or life.

To this great struggle in behalf of liberty against brute force, and to the sufferings caused by it, the Fellows of the Academy have not proven indifferent. They have given freely of their best in professional, sympathetic and material aids. In the early days of the war the Academy donated one thousand dollars to the Patriotic Fund raised for the benefit of the wives and children of those enlisting. From that