

Foreword

— he came through Saint-Éloi and Festubert —
But this happened in September.”

The woman who sat beside her took up the theme. “We have talked a lot about this at our Red Cross meetings. What do the women of the world think of war? No woman ever wanted war, did she? No woman could bring a child into the world, suffering for it, caring for it, loving it, without learning the value of human life, could she? War comes about because human life is the cheapest thing in the world; it has been taken at man’s estimate, and that is entirely too low. Now, we have been wondering what can be done when this war is over to form a league of women to enforce peace. There is enough sentiment in the world in favor of human life if we could bind it up some way.”

I gazed at the eager faces before me — in astonishment. Did I ever hear high-browed ladies in distant cities talk of the need of education in the country districts?

“Well-kept homes and hand-knit socks will never save the world,” said Alex’s mother.