

"AND HE SAID, FIGHT ON" \*  
(Tennyson)

TIME and its ally, Dark Disarmament,  
Have compassed me about,  
Have massed their armies, and on battle bent  
My forces put to rout ;  
But though I fight alone, and fall, and die,  
Talk terms of Peace ? Not I.

They war upon my fortress, and their guns  
Are shattering its walls ;  
My army plays the cowards' part, and runs,  
Pierced by a thousand balls ;  
They call for my surrender. I reply,  
" Give quarter now ? Not I."

They've shot my flag to ribbons, but in rents  
It floats above the height ;  
Their ensign shall not crown my battlements  
While I can stand and fight.  
I fling defiance at them as I cry,  
" Capitulate ? Not I."

\* E. Pauline Johnson died March 7th, 1913. Shortly after the doctors told her that her illness would be her final one, she wrote the above poem, taking a line from Tennyson as her theme.