

It is not alone the destruction, on such colossal scale, of the material things of our present day civilization that we deplore as one of the consequences of war. Were that all, we could soon take heart anew, with nothing to fear. It is the loss of human life that we deplore, the loss to the world, and to our young nation, of the heroic dead, and the impairment in body or in mind of so many of the bravest of our land. Here are losses that admit of no reparation. They are a part of the infinite mystery. They represent the sacrifice that, through all ages and in every sphere of action, is a part of the price of freedom. It will be gratifying to all that the tower which is to be the crowning feature of this stately structure, will stand as a national memorial to the men who with their lives defended and saved our free institutions, and the liberties these institutions are meant to conserve.

But material structures and countless human lives are not all that the War has helped to destroy and impair; it has tended to destroy and impair much that is venerable and sacred in a multitude of directions. Not an institution has escaped its perilous touch. This is true of all our institutions, whether of the Church or State. In faith, men have "faltered where they firmly stood", in their