

spirit that has the power in our struggle against sin to make our strength as the strength of ten. Take the single instance of the spirit of unselfishness that they have bequeathed for our appropriation. It was no part of their obedience as soldiers. It was not laid down in the soldier's hand-book. It was never promulgated in general orders. It was never urged by any captain or platoon commander, and yet this Christ-like quality of unselfishness was universal throughout our armies. It pervaded all ranks and all grades of the service. Many a cross on the battlefield marks the deliberate sacrifice of a life that some other might be saved.

The symbols of the corporate spirit that our beloved dead have left us are the poppy-lighted crosses of France and Flanders. The men who fought and bled and died there have redeemed us with a price that we cannot yet begin to estimate. We shall never be able to reckon its full total. In all the world's history there has been no redemption from evil without suffering and sacrifice, and the shedding of innocent blood, and this redemption only typifies for us the great world redemption won for us by the Cross of Christ.

Try to conceive once more that little company of sixty souls, as a unified spirit, almost for us at this moment a corporeal presence. As we sit here in God's house can we not feel that presence? Can we not feel that spirit brooding over us? Can we not feel it filling our hearts? Can we not realize it as a holy inspiration? If we can, then the spirit of our dead is a sword placed in our hands. It is a shield for our protection when we are in danger of assault. We can feel that protection as did our sorely harried troops at Mons who thought they saw God's angels in the sky.

"The silent legions of the Lord
Came riding by—
The blinding flash of the flaming sword
Under the flaming sky.
A handful passed from the jaws of death
And stumbled by,
But a host was quelled by a fiery Breath
Under the flaming sky."

And now look once more at those sixty heroic souls, drawn up so that we may see each one and recognize his features. Pick out the one you loved best, purged now of all earthly dross. Think of his qualities—the honest face, the fearless eyes, the brave and loving heart, the open hand, the attitude of willing service. Can we think of these things without making a solemn vow of con-