

You have left them to rot where the stars blaze hot,
 You have left them astare in the ice;
 You have boughten your place and power and pride;
 But God! Who has paid the price?

We the mothers of men who bare them,
 Who suckled them at our breast,
 Stand row on row, on cliff and voe,
 North, East, and South, and West.

But the women have been something more than passive spectators and sufferers in the world war. Since it began, the world of industry has been invaded by great armies of working women, and that invasion is prophetic of a new day for women in the after-war world.

In England, there are estimated to be more than four and a quarter millions of paid women workers engaged in regular occupations, and in this number are not included the voluntary hundreds of thousands, the many nurses and part-time workers. Millions of women, heroically, cheerfully, have faced death and mutilation in munition factories, and thousands have performed this service, not from necessity or the hope of gain, but from a fine sense of public duty. S. S. McClure relates⁷ this incident: "Lord Haldane told me an illustrative anecdote of a house-party in Scotland. A young lady excused herself at half past nine o'clock. Lord Haldane asked her where she was going so early.

⁷ "Obstacles to Peace," p. 420.