1770

an inappreciable fraction of our ordered and sustained efforts is given to the business of actual living, as distinguished from the preliminaries to living.

The Windrow.

Sienkiewicz, the famous Polish author, has been imprisoned by the Austrian authorities for advising the Austrian Poles to fight on the side of Russia.

. . . .

The one hundred and twenty-five United States Red Cross nurses who have gone to Europe receive \$60 a month, an amount scarcely to be counted in the balance against the hard work they do and the risks they run. Theirs is surely a labor of love.

. . . .

Even the United States. neutral as she is, cannot escape the loss consequent upon war. It is estimated that a dollar a head on every man, woman and child in the country, is the amount that must be levied to make up the loss of customs receipt up to the present. The tax will be levied, however, chiefly upon luxuries. The bill of the Ways and Means Committee provides for a tax of three per cent. on railroad freight, and a tax on beer and domestic wines.

One of those disappointed of the privilege of bearing arms, says Literary Digest, was the distinguished Belgian poet and author, Maurice Maeterlinck. He offered to enlist, but was declared too old, so he turned out into the fields with the women and helped gather the crops. At first he found it impossible to write : The thought that only a few hundred kilometers away men are ranged against one another to kill," he said, "blots out every other thought." Subsequently, however, he managed to gather his forces, and has written "the bitterest arraignment of Pan-Germanism so far printed."

....

The Franco - German war, which lasted 190 days, cost Germany \$450,000.000. Germany, however, levied an indemnity of \$1,000,000,000 from France, and got every cent of it. . . The Russo-Japanese war of 1904-5, cost Japan \$600,000,000, a loss of \$100,000,000, since her indemnity from Russia amounted to only \$500,000,000. During the war, which lasted from February, 1904, to September, 1905, the combined expenses of Russia and Japan totaled \$2,250,000,-000. . . The total cost of the Crimean War was \$1,565,000,000. . . That of America's struggle for independence cost Britain \$605,000,080. . . The Napoleonic

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

Hope's Quiet Hour.

The Home Guard.

As his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff : they shall part alike . . . he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day.-1 Sam. xxx : 24, 25,

. Thousands at his bidding speed, And post o'er land and ocean without rest: They also serve who on'y stand and wait.

-Milton.

David, with his six hundred men, returned home from an expedition into the land of the Philistines, to find that the Amalekites had burned his city and carried off all the women captives. The little army of 600 started off in hot pursuit, but 200 men broke down on the way, and were left in a state of exhaustion by the brook Besor. The 400 pursuers soon returned victorious, having recovered their wives and children, and won great spoil from the enemy. When they reached Besor, the men who had been left behind 'came out to meet them, and David gave them courteous greeting. But some of his warriors, boastfully pleased with themselves, declared that their weaker brethren had no right to any of the spoils; so David made the law contained in our text, which was based on God's command to the Israelites, given through Moses, 400 years earlier.-Num. xxxi: 25 - 27.

If this law is fair and just; it can only be so because those who tarry at home do not shirk their share of 'the burden of We have seen, in these strenuous war. weeks, that there is much necessary work demanded from those who stay at home. Everybody can help, and the help of millions of individuals points up to a huge total. If Canada has reason to be proud of the courage and self-sacrifice of her sons, she has also reason to be proud of the self-forgetting spirit shown by her daughters.

War is a terrible tragedy, and we who call ourselves by the Name of the Prince of Peace may feel that only an awful ecessity can justify us in going out to kill thousands of our fellow-Christians. We shudder at the thought of the desolated homes in Germany, of the women and children weeping for those who have been killed by our soldiers. We may not be able to see how this slaughter could have been avoided, without national dishonor and disgrace, and yet - Well, my own personal feeling is that I am thankful that I am not a man, 'that I am not called to go out and kill my fellows.

and if He is forced to say to us : "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to Me." He does not say that a gift to some especially interesting fund is necessarily a gift to Him. "One of the least" of His brethren probably means someone uninteresting and obscure. We must be careful lest gifts to patriotic funds be taken from these "least" brethren of Christ. I mean, if we have laid aside a tenth for charitable purposes, as usual, and take a slice away from this tenth for a patriotic fund, we are not giving from our own pockets, but from those who would-in any ordinary year-receive help from us. We must not act like the rich man in the parable, who spared his own flocks and herds when a traveller visited him, and feasted on the one ewe lamb of his poor neighbor.

Then there is another important duty laid upon us, a duty which all may perform. Many cannot give money, and have no time to work for anything except their daily food, some are helpless and suffering, but all who read this Quiet Hour can pray. This is the most practical help of all. When the enemy fought with Israel in the plain, Moses, Aaron, and Hur, went up to the top of a hill, "and it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed : and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands and Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword."

You see what practical and valuable help Moses gave, although he was sitting quietly on a stone away from the battle, and Aaron and Hur gave practical help, It is not only the prayers of great prophets and saints that are needed. We must all pray, and pray together. One good result of this war is that it has brought people into the Presence of the King of the universe. Day after day earnest prayers go up from millions of hearts. People of different denominations meet together, and, forgetting their differences in their common sorrow, send up their prayers as one.

Some people are praying in humility and trust, acknowledging past selfishness and worldliness, leaving the issue of the war in God's hands, yet confident that their prayers can and do bring down daily blessings on the soldiers in camp, in battle, and in hospital. They remember the inspiring words of Isaiah : have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day or night : ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, and give Him no rest, till He establish, and till He make Jerusalem a praise in .the We are not trying 'to win God's earth. Love-it is already ours. We are not trying to secure the help of an unwilling Ally. He is already seeking our real and lasting good-and also the good of our harassed and brave enemies. We often hear 'the objection that both sides are praying for victory, and that God cannot answer conflicting prayers. Shall we give up praying because God does not allow us to use prayer as a magic talisman ? Christ, our Captain, prayed in agonizing trust 'that the cup of sorrow might pass. His prayer brought down not ease and comfort, but strength, patience and courage-infinitely greater gifts than He was asking for. Were His prayers unavailing ? The disciples slept at His side, when asked to watch and pray in fellowship with His sorrow, and when danger threatened them they all forsook Him and fled. How ashamed they must have been of their weak cowardice, and how differently they might have acted if they had not slothfully neglected the urgent call to "watch and pray."

FOUNDED 1866

father cried out in tears, "Lord, I believe; help Thou my unbelief." His faith was still weak, but he received the desired blessing. The fact that he brought his son to Christ, proved that he had some faith; and those who pray for their dear friends and for their loved nation, in this time of distress, prove that they have some faith.

Don't stay away from the special prayer - meetings, which are being constantly held now, even if you have very little faith that prayers can do any good. St. Thomas could not believe that the Lord had risen, yet he was with those who gathered together for prayer on the Sunday after Easter-and because he was there he found the Master he loved. What a pity it would have been for him if he had stayed away because his faith was weak. When our faith is as insignificant as a grain of mustard seed, we can stand beside our comrades-or kneel at our Lord's feet-and say, "If Thou canst do anything, have compassion on us, and help us." That weak faith-if That weak faith-if it is alive and real-may grow strong with exercise.

Some people think that it is useless to pray about physical things, because science teaches us that physical events happen according to unchanging laws. But we ourselves can interfere with natural law. A man with blood-poisoning in his hand would die if left to natural laws, but the skilled surgeon interferes and defeats approaching death. Our Lord has told us to pray for physical blessings. He warned the disciples of the terrible distress coming upon Jerusalem, and said that they could, and should, avert some of the distress by their prayers : "Pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the Sabbath day," He said. Shall we not feel emboldened to pray also that this war may be over before the winter ?

Then, having committed our cause to our Father, let us trust His ordering of events. Our faith is not in our own prayers, but in the One to Whom our prayers are addressed. His will is ours, even when it means the Cross. Are we not sworn soldiers of the Cross? Shall we complain if called upon to endure it? God is our Commander-in-Chief-is it likely that He will explain beforehand His reasons for all the sorrow He permits? Our business is to obey trustfully.

Sometime, I know not when nor how, All things will be revealed, But until then, content am I To sail with orders sealed."

DORA FARNCOMB.

A Prayer.

OCTOBER



Dear Ingle

the other ni tween midni that seemed than any I ginning of usual at suc all-all the carnage. ' I me that to powers of blessing;-on times feels, mally fall w and so the I think I h trenches-and exaggerated filthy becau cleanliness; i impossibility tood: homesi sickness of n ever seeing because of th coverings; he agonies, too hand. - Overl shrapnel and yond, the bo non! Now someone wou of the dying horses-piled behind, red n red mounds, the putrefyin week, were st pulsing blood -Over all, with searchlig every poor d rain, such as great battle, the misery of low,-for Na ping, and the must needs co tonations of s humanity has or not.

-Truly, "a fare, as a Fre some of the aessed, has ca and one with in the words after the lor American Civi

wars which ended with Waterloo, cost France \$1,250,000,000, and Great Britain \$4,155,000,000.

. . . .

The Admirals of the British Navy in command to - day are all comparatively young men. In the First Fleet, the oldest officer, Vice-Admiral Sir Douglas Gamble, in command of the Fourth Battle Squadron, is 57, and the youngest, Rear-Admiral Sir David Beatty, is 43. Sir John Jellicoe, who is in chief command in the North Sea, is not yet 55, while Vice-Admiral Sir Lewis Bayly, in command of the First Battle Squadron, is 56. Vice-Admiral Sir George Warrender, who commands the most powerful battle squadron, the second, is 54; Vice-Admiral Bradford, in the Third Baltic Squadron, is 55.

. . . .

This comes from Valcartier : "An army of athletes" is the title to be accorded to the Canadian contingent which recently left Valcartier. It is doubtful if any fighting force of this size the world over numbers so many well-known athletes as have been in training here for service on the continent. Every sport seems to have been robbed of its most shining lights, who have taken up arms in response to Canada's call for volunteers.

"Is there any good reason why I should give you five cents?" asked the well-dressed elderly man of the youth who accosted him.

"Well," said the small boy, as he retired from the danger zone, "if I had a nice high hat like yours I wouldn't want it soaked with a snowball."

But we who stay at home, who are spared the deadly work at the front, must not be shirkers. If we are to share in the joy of victory, we must take our share of the conflict. St. Paul says of the churches of Macedonia that they gave joyfully and liberally out of their deep poverty, that they were willing, "to their power and beyond their power."

Canada has been eagerly giving money and food-not out of her deep poverty, but out of her long-continued prosperityand she will continue t_0 give, even when it means real sacrifice. Our Lord told us that we should have the poor always with us; and the excitement of patriotic funds and work must not make us indifferent to the sufferings of our poorer neighbors. We must not divert our usual offerings into a new channel, leaving the clergy to struggle unaided against the tide of home-poverty. This war has ground under its iron heel many people who will not receive help from the patriotic funds. Let us-for a time at least - give up our lazy selfishness, and do something in the way of bearing the heavy burdens of others. Each of us can find chances of helping, right where we are. Let us try to adopt 'the motto of the boy scouts, and do at least one kind deed every day, remembering our Lord's unseen Presence in each of the feast of His brethren. It is a high privilege to do some service for Him. It will be a sad thing if He is neglected,

Some people are praying now, because the soul instinctively seeks Divine help in times of terrible testing, and yet they may have little faith in the availing power of prayer. Let such people go on praying, and their faith will grow stronger by being used. They have not used the weapon of prayer often enough to feel at home in its exercise-prayer needs practice, like every other valuable art. But doubtful people can learn faith by coming to God. A man once brought his suffering child to JESUS, saying, "If Thou canst do anything, have compassion on us. and help us." When asked to show stronger faith than this, the poor

O God, who hast made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and Who in Thy Holy Word hast taught us that One is Our Father, even God, and that all we are brethren: We pray Thee in this dark hour of international strife that Thou wilt open the eyes of the people, and those who in Thy Name are entrusted with the authority of governance, to see and understand their right and true relation to Thee, and through Thee to one another. Teach them by Thy Spirit that hatred and violence are not strength, but weakness, that the true safeguarding of a nation is not to be found in weapons of war, but in those eternal principles which make for righteousness and truth, and brotherhood and peace. Give to those who shall suffer in the war which is raging now the consolations of Thy grace. Heal the sick; comfort the wounded; minister to the dying, and bind up the broken heart. Bring, we pray Thee, to a speedy end this international strife; and hasten the time when peace shall flourish out of the earth, and all shall dwell together in unity and love, and war shall be no more. We ask it in the Name of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen."

WHERE DOES IT GO?

A correspondent of "The Farmer's Advocate'' living in British Columbia sends the following query, made by his neighbor's little son. The father was putting the boy to bed, and was about to put out the light when the bright little fellow remarked : "Papa, where does the light go when you blow it out ?" Who can answer ?

he spoke-"Wa Perhaps you war's atrocitie draw. Were be in the thic to write so v and horror th little towards hatred of war everlasting p brush mine, I Verestchagin, painter killed war-bring was all the peopl could bring if tion towards For the pen such ways,-as known. Only culation of a Lamszus-a sin that he had lo by order of th But now to vision : While wounded, the thousands up strewn over Europe, it sude the part of it of us have seen so keen, must of the tremen Europe. If we revelation at creed-we must personality live think of it,-th the sodden bat story. What thousands of so upon those sam