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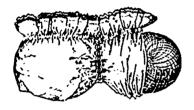
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With Hands Tied.

By Katherine Wheeler.

The vision suggested by a certain Roman story comes before me, a youth standing in the amphitheatre, his hands bound with thongs, while he struggles fiercely to free himself and make a last effort to fight for the life of one dearer to him than his own life.

It is hard to face trouble at any time but how much harder to confront it with hands tied. Yet there are some, ayo many, who have done so. All praise to them for what they have accomplished,

them for what they have accompnished, bound, and more shame to the laggards who stand by idle, though free.

Would it be too bold an assertion that half the best work in the world has been done as it were with hands tied? What of deaf Beethoven and blind Milton of by-gone days? What of many others of

our day t
We hear of one woman who made the plans for the Woman's Building at the World's Fair in three weeks, taking only the time she could spare from hours given to teaching. We hear of another, given to teaching. We hear of another, a successful story writer, who, with household cares constantly pressing upon her

There are life-long invalids, cripples ONTARIO and deaf mutes—an incapable multitude, seemingly, who yet by their cheerfulness through their daily struggle have lifted other strong and able fellow-creatures from the Slough of Despond.

There are hundreds who have worked day in and day out, with their faces turned steadfastly in one direction, but with the cords pressing even tighter on the aching wrists, while freedom and their accomplished object are always in

And one day (as in the Roman story) comes an arrow whizzing through the air, straight towards the bound hands, and the cords are cut. Then the lately-bound rise to their feet, dazed and uncertain; but to find at last that the struggle is over; they are free.
What matters it if that emancipation

comes here or in another world, if the arrow be sent by the hand of some human agency, or by the kind, sure hand of the Angel of Death. What matters it? In either case they shall work no more with hands tied.

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