Frank Wise

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THE TRICOLOUR

THE fields are ploughed by cannon,
Burned cottage, byre and shed,
The orchards slashed in wantonness,
The snow is trampled red,
But below the seeds are bursting,
And soon our eyes will greet
The bluet and the poppy and the modest marguerite.

For God hath sown the midden
Where late the gardens blew,
The battle-fields, where lie cur brave,
The fields and hillsides, too,
And they will bloom this summer,
Despite the trampled mud,
The daisy and the bluet and the poppy red as blood.

And He will watch them tenderly,
And see they reach no harm,
Those million million flow'rets,
But keep them fed and warm.
So when we conquer back our own,
These three we shall descry—
The poppy and the daisy and the bluet like the sky.

Among our captive people,
Their faith grows with the rain,
That o'er the fields this summer
Their flag will float again.
E'en now in dreams they see it,
The Tricolour—a wraith—
The bluet and the poppy and the daisy like their faith.