

A SCHOLAR'S LETTERS FROM THE FRONT

NOT once but many times in reading the letters of young men who have lost their lives for England's sake we have felt that such deaths as theirs have a splendor which really survives the form of death. Never before has the youth of the world been brought into such an intimate relation with Death and thoughts of Death; and it is wonderful to recognize how happily and calmly boys who in ordinary circumstances would have been only on the threshold of their careers, face the great Fear. They reason with themselves, but they would soon be parted with death. What does one imagine more harrowing in the abstract than the early death by violence of a youth endowed with great brains, who has acquired a taste of learning and scholarship and who shows taste, humor and enthusiasm in everything he says and does? The waste of such a death! And yet if one thinks again and further, it is seen that the record such men leave behind in their country is really more than that of ordinary souls, and that it is worth while. If the scholar-soldier has written letters in the time of great stress, and leaves something truly precious. He helps others to see that death is, after all, a white and impotent assailant of man's spirit. The ordinary man, but as yet he does not touch the hearts and nerves of the bodies of the others who follow. A boy fresh from Oxford or Cambridge who has not thought of soldiering as a career, but who finds himself in the clash of arms in this war, has a better chance than the professional soldier of seeing with the eyes of enthusiasm. Not of course, that the professional soldier is not an enthusiastic and more conscientious than that of the Army. But the amateur, temporarily introduced into the profession, comes with a freshness of perception and interest to most men who are viewing familiar things.

RED ROSE TEA "is good tea"

THE broken soldier sings and whistles day to dark. He's but the remnant of a man, maimed and half blind; but the soul they could not harm going like the lark. Like the incarnate joy that will not be confined. The lady at the Hall has given him a light task; He works in the garden as busy as a bee; One hand is but a stump, and his face a pitted mask; He goes about singing like a bird set free. Whistling and singing like a linnet on wing. The others stop to listen, leaning on spade; While men and comely, they fret at little things. The soul of his singing like a thrush in a grass. Hither and thither hopping like Robin on the green. The soul of the broken man is beautiful and brave; And while he weeds the garden and the bright hours pass. The bird caught in the cage whistles the joyous strain. —Katharine Tynan, in Westminster Gazette.

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PORT OF ST. ANDREWS

CUSTOMS. THOMAS WREN, Collector. D. G. HANCOCK, Prev. Officer. O. H. HANCOCK, Prev. Officer. Saturdays, 9 to 1.

SHIPPING NEWS

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