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EASTER

Once again the calendar marks the inauguration of Spring. The slackened life-pulses of Mather Nature are quickening apace. There is a stirring of new life in the soil and in the tree-tops. Robins and song sparrows are singing their love songs among the branches. Pussy willows are throwing off their warm winter coats and the alders are hanging out their crimson catkins down by the brookside. The trailing arbutus is responding to the magic touch of the sun's increasing strength, and will soon be throwing its delicate perfume upon the vernal air. Spring is ushering in the reign of song and bloom.

Easter stands at the open door of Spring. The great Christian festival comes to greet Nature awakening from her winter sleep. Around a thousand church altars the Easter lily proclaims the glad message of deathless life. The Easter chimes ring out the blessed story of life and immortality brought into clearer light through the risen Christ. The Christian church celebrates again the anniversary of that first happy Eastern morn. Christendom revisits the empty tomb in the garden and hears anew the heartening words: "He is not here; He is risen." Afresh the glorious fact of Christ's resurrection is impressed upon the Christian consciousness. The power of an endless life is again gripping the heart of the world.

Easter is the golden day of hope. Multitudes sleep their last sleep in the dust, but Christ's resurrection wrote over every grave the words: "I am the Resurrection and the Life." A risen Christ broods over the crosses among the poppies in Flanders' field and those crosses are rain-