

always found response in a peace loving age. Mere camp life makes this possible, and that camp life is made a thousand fold more harmful when soldiery becomes the daily life of the camp. Men's high thoughts of mothers and sisters seem to abandon them in the military world. Even the use of alcoholic drinks, one of the world's giant evils, seems not so harmful to men in war as they had been led to believe, because war places these drinks in the list of rations.

Separation from home environment frees from home's restraints, and sometimes,—all too frequently,—removes the natural restraints upon the homes which soldiers leave behind them. These things are but the accidents of war, so to speak, but they are invariably the accidents and accompaniments of war. And here again the horrors are incalculably great, because they are almost universal.

War's aftermath is almost wholly an unmeasured moral injury. It is immorality condoned by multitudes and in large degree unrestrained, because of the crucifixion of high ideals upon the altar of war. The soldier has become accustomed to the shedding of blood and all the accompanying evils of war. The story of such things no longer shocks the minds of either soldiers or civilians. The condoning of the terrible crimes of war makes easy the condoning of the lesser crimes of civilian life. Hence war is always followed by a period of crime. There is even now sweeping over the nations which have been at war, a huge tidal wave of crime such as the present generation has not previously known. And not only is there the menace of unnumbered crimes, but the still greater menace of a conscienceless administration of justice, and a shocking pardoning of crime and criminals. Robberies and profiteering are of one sort, and are possible because war has wrought its pernicious effects in the nations, the demoralization of those once sensitive to sin and crime and maladministration of justice. Of this deplorable condition war, by its very nature, is the efficient cause.

Surely there is very little that can compare in magnitude with the terrible and immeasurable harm wrought by war, in the realm of a nation's only real wealth—the manhood, the character of its people.