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EVERY THURSDAY MORNING



FREE PRESS BUILDING  
MILL STREET, ACTON ONT.

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Poetry.

THE ANSWERED CALL.

List to the stand of the Canadian Grand.

Who looked to the west, that led to Calais.

The outlet to England's shores.

We were lying at ease, six miles from

Ypres.

Laughing and joking quite gay,

Discussing if ever a blow we'd deliver

At the heavy across the way.

Night time came down, there was not a

sound.

As we slept "neath a starless sky,

Useless in our hands, the rifles lay

"Canadian Stand By!"

We were up and dressed, prepared for the

fight.

Knowing our chance had come

To avenge our dead, who had fought and

fallen.

On the plains of Belgium.

Eyes quite clear, devoid of fear,

Three poisonous shells and a very hall;

That made our rifles yield.

Away on the right, extended out of sight

We traced the enemy's line.

Where countless Hun, with well-trained

Were massed as one to nine.

"Forward Canadians!" The Colonel cried,

"Right at the front!"

And show the Hun how Canada's Sons

Are ready--for the Day.

Morning broke, the cannons spoke,

A thousand guns, no less!

While shot and shell around us fell

And showed us down like grass.

Through fields we swept, o'er furrows left,

Louise's blood and hand!

Our Comrades fell, and none could tell

If they were killed or maimed.

Hill on we sped, the Colonel led

"With us a soldier's

Thinking his men, "Boys at them again!"

"Victory we're sure to gain."

The cannons roared, the bullets scart

Ten yards for every hundred.

Through shot and shell and a very hall

Striven with the dead.

He would tread, some say twice

That to the end of a soldier's name.

A soldier's name, his last he gave,

And died with a soldier's name.

And right at the time, made a vow,

We'll kill the Hun, we'll kill the Hun!

True to the end of the English creed,

Who fought at Neuve Chapelle.

As each man thought of the love wrought,

To work for the Hun, we'll kill the Hun!

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They were more than usually busy, at

the clearing station, but only before the work

began. When the call came, and one after

another took the case in hand, he was so

calm, so strong, so fine, that he excited

the best from everybody--even from the

poor fellows whom his hands sought to

help and heal.

The Angel of the Lord, who in many

places has been the awful battler of the

present stricken earth, was often in the

little clearing house behind the lines, where

he made his presence both seen and felt.

Nobody spoke of these things; they were

part of the day's experience, to some even

of the day's routine.

Fancourt himself was conscious that day

of some new quality in his own mind and

heart which was neither fear, nor shrink-

ing, nor apprehension, but merely strange

courtesy--that it was to be a memorable

day for him in a sense that he had not yet

known.

To his own personal safety he gave no

thought; that was a matter of no moment,

since he had long made his peace (dear

premier) all fashionable phrase, which

came upon a certain occasion of a man's

own with his Maker.

But the new feeling of detachment did

not quite his pulse nor give him a but-

terfaring heart, nor most potent of all--

make his strong, his hands unsteady as he

set to his work. He was as calm as the

sea. He was as strong as the sea.

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