

truly that peace is not the highest good. While evil exists, let the sword smite it; when evil is conquered, then a peace founded upon righteousness shall reign. We pray "Thy kingdom come." Had German materialism and selfishness conquered the world would it have hastened the coming of Christ's kingdom? "War is red horror. But better war than the utter crushing out of liberty and civilisation under the heel of Prussian or **any other** militarism." When it became a choice between war or allowing German standards of conduct to dominate the world, Britain chose war, and her Dominions ratified that choice and sealed it with their blood.

The death toll is heavy. Shall we mourn for those who have died the hero's death? Nay, rather let us rejoice that they have been translated from the church militant below to the church triumphant above. Wrote one to his mother: "I always go into battle under the cover of the 91st psalm." He went into battle on September 15th, and died of wounds two days later. In life he abode "in the secret place of the Most High," and now his spirit freed from earthly fetters abides in God's more immediate presence. May that thought comfort all sorrowing mothers.

When Hood in the Invincible threw himself between the damaged Lion and the German cruisers and drew their fire upon himself, he saved his damaged consort but not himself. Admiral Beattie, on coming ashore, burst into tears and cried: "Hood gave his life for mine." The boys in Northern France died for us, to save New Zealand women from the fate that German soldiers inflicted on Belgian women. Could they have died more nobly than in defence of mothers and sisters?

Many White Ribboners have lost sons and husbands. Shall we sit down and mourn for them with folded hands? Shall we not rather work for their ideal—a righteous nation to rule the seas? They fought to make Britain supreme; may we not fight to make her righteous? Does not our Empire seem more to us now that we have given our boys to die for it? They died to save it from a foreign foe; 'tis ours to save it from the deadlier foes within. They died that Britain might still send out the missionary to heathen lands, we live that the mis-

sionary may go unaccompanied by that devil in solution, gin. They died to save women and girls from the power of the savage German soldiery; we live to save our sister women from the power of the white slave trade.

Oh! beareaved one! Your boy is safe in his Heavenly Father's keeping, but many boys and girls in this land are still in danger from the twin demons of intemperance and impurity. It is ours to make our Empire worthy of the brave men who are bleeding and dying for her. They have fallen in the fight, but they hand their banner on to us saying, "we fought for freedom, you carry on the battle to free the slaves of sin."

"For freedom's battle once begun,
Bequeathed by bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft is ever won."

Why do politicians bow down before the liquor vote? Because it is a solid vote. Ours be the work to make the woman's vote a solid vote for righteousness.

Beyond the war-clouds and the reddened ways,
I see the promise of the coming Days!
I see His Son arise, now charged with grace
Earth's tears to dry and all her woes efface!
Christ lives! Christ loves! Christ rules!

No more shall might,
Though leagued with all the forces of the night,
Ride over right. No more shall wrong
The world's gross agonies prolong.
Who waits His time shall surely see
The triumph of his constancy:
When, without let, or bar, or stay,
The coming of His perfect day
Shall sweep the Powers of night away—
And Faith, replumed for nobler flight,
And Hope, aglow with radiance bright,
And Love, in loveliness bedight,
Shall Greet the Morning Light.

GATE OF HELL.

Mr Justice Burnside observed that over every public house should be written Dantes' inscription for the Gate of Hell, "All hope abandon, ye who enter here."

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS AND THE EDUCATION ACT, 1914.

At the last Convention of the W.C.T.U. I endeavoured to explain something of the regulations of the Education Act, 1914, as they affect the election of School Committees, and the changes made possible in the method of conducting such elections; and I was then asked to repeat what I had said in the "White Ribbon" later on. These regulations do not affect elections in the smaller districts, having a population of less than 8000, which continue to be conducted as heretofore, at a meeting of householders called for the purpose, the vote being restricted to householders, including both husband and wife, and the parents of children attending the school. Any householder resident in the district is eligible as a candidate, and nomination may either be sent in a week before the election, the nomination papers being signed by the nominator and the candidate, or may be made at the householders' meeting (sections 1, 2 and 4, sub-section 3, of the third schedule).

But for the large centres provision is made by this Act for changes in the method of election and in the qualification of the voters, giving a much more extended franchise. The Act gives power to the Education Board to combine all the school districts within any city or borough into one, which then becomes an Urban School District (section 40, sub-section 2), to be governed by the School Committee, the separate committees automatically ceasing to exist. It is open to the various School Committees in the large centres to request the Board to form such an Urban School District, and if two-thirds of the Committees concerned are agreed on the matter, the Board shall forthwith establish it. Such request must be sent to the Board before January 31st, 1917, or any second year after, in order for it to take effect at the next election (section 40, sub-section 6). In such an Urban School District, where the governing committee has jurisdiction over a population of more than 8000, the election will take place at the same time and place, and by the same methods as the Municipal and other elections held every second year (section 41, sub-section 3, and Part II. of the Third Schedule, sections 1 and 4); all those whose names