

she followed the victorious German army into that city and personally undertook the work of systematizing and supervising the relief measures for the unhappy inhabitants. To the credit of those in control of affairs, it should be said that she was furnished with large supplies of food and materials for garments. With this at her disposal, she fed the hungry and set the half-clad women of the city at work sewing garments to clothe the population.

From Strassburg Miss Barton went to Paris at the outbreak of the Commune. Although she entered this terror-stricken city on foot, her reputation for unselfish relief work had preceded her and she was immediately recognized by the warring factions and furnished with food and supplies for the unfortunate people of Paris. These she distributed judiciously and in a manner that earned the gratitude of all classes. The story is told that upon one occasion, when a hungry mob had run over the police, bent upon raiding the headquarters for provisions, this wonderful woman quietly opened the door in the face of the infuriated Parisians and began to talk to them. At once they recognized her as the person who was in the habit of feeding their hungry families and one cried out: "Mon Dieu, it is an angel." Then they grew quiet; tears glistened in their hollow eyes, and with shame showing on their faces they walked away.

In 1873 Miss Barton returned home and immediately launched the movement for the organization of the American Red Cross. She petitioned Congress to enact measures granting such an organization official character and enabling it to co-operate with the European society. Her efforts were crowned with success in 1881, and upon the founding of the American Red Cross she was made president of the organization, which position she held for twenty-four years. On several different occasions she was delegated to represent the American society at conferences in Europe and there it was that she made repeated attempts to have the rules of the foreign organization amended so as to extend its objects to enable it to "aid the suffering in times of great national distress." Although the European refused to accept this provision until years later, the American Red Cross head put the plan into operation in this country, and in several instances was successful in carrying on relief work in times of peace in distant lands.

A summary of what the subject of this sketch accomplished during her presidency of the great organization challenges the imagination. She personally participated in the relief work occasioned by the Michigan forest fires and the Mississippi floods in 1882 and 1883. The following year the Louisiana cyclone disaster claimed her attention. Then came the urgent demands made by the Charleston earthquake and the great Texas drought, with the yellow fever outbreak in Florida following closely in their wake. In 1889 occurred the terrible Johnstown flood. Miss Barton responded to this call for assistance by taking the first train to the disaster and remaining for five months on the scene. Two years later found her in the heart of Russia attending to the wants of the famine-stricken peasants. Generous people in all parts of the world responded to her appeal for assistance and supplies were forwarded to her in great abundance.

Next followed one of the most brilliant achievements of her interesting career. At the outbreak of the Armenian massacres in 1896 she proceeded to Constantinople and asked consent to go to the relief of that unhappy people. The Sultan was impressed with her petition and ventured to grant her wish, providing she and her five associates would wear the Crescent above the Cross. Being practical-minded, she made the concession and was given safe conduct into the heart of Armenia where her work gained for her the gratitude of all Christendom.

In 1898 President McKinley requested her to head the American relief expedition to the suffering and starving reconcentrados in Cuba. The venerable president of the Red Cross was then in her seventy-seventh year but she did not hesitate to assume the undertaking. Then when war was declared against Spain she promptly extended her activities and co-operated with the army in fighting the yellow fever and caring for the stricken soldiers and inhabitants of the island. Her long career of activity in relief work came suddenly to a close during the Galveston disaster two years later. Her health failed her and she reluctantly laid down the flag that she carried across two continents and with which she had aided millions of men and women

to take a new hold on health and hope. From then on until her death in 1912 she devoted her failing energies towards encouraging others to carry on the great work.

Wonderful woman! The counselor and co-worker of American presidents for fifty years, in the cause of humanity: decorated by the emperor and empress of Germany, the grand duke of Baden, the queen of Servia, and the prince of Jerusalem: yet notwithstanding all these signal honors and distinctions, she still remained the simple-mannered, tender-hearted woman that the thousands remembered who had shared her sympathies in the hour of their troubles. What a name to conjure with! And if we allow our thoughts to linger awhile on Christmas Day in contemplation of the life work of Clara Barton, the Red Cross movement will take on new majesty and a loftier inspiration will possess our souls.

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HEADS UP!

THE material decrease in the volume of holiday business this year is having a noticeable effect in local business circles. Some of our most prominent men of affairs seem to have lost their nerve altogether, and are just about ready to shut up shop. It is difficult to believe that for them the holidays are simply a season of commercial enterprise, and that when profits fall below their expectations it means that the country is "going to the bow-wows." There is another and better way to view the situation. That the people have retrenched a bit in the matter of promiscuous holiday purchasing is a most healthy sign, even for the merchants; it means that there will be more money to circulate in legitimate channels and for staple purchases when the holiday fever has subsided.

The community is essentially prosperous. Work is plenty; wages are high; and the people will spend their money unless somebody becomes frightened at his own shadow and sets off a false alarm. Our local captains of industry and trade should take a lesson from the public-spirited citizens of Dayton, Ohio. Just a few years ago Dayton was inundated and practically swept away by one of the most disastrous floods in the history of the Ohio river valley. And yet, in this short time, those plucky citizens have built a new city upon the ruins of the old and right now, notwithstanding the war, are spending thousands of dollars advertising the community. Nothing finer has ever been recorded in the annals of American cities.

Which reminds us of a story that is told of old J. P. Morgan. Some one had come to him complaining of the prevailing hard times, the tumbling stock market, and was fearful that the country was rapidly going to smash. The great financier finally became impatient with the pessimist and said: "The man who is a bear on the United States will go broke." We pass this advice along to certain persons for what it is worth.

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English commander who compels the Turks in Palestine to conduct their retreat within range of guns of a British fleet knows his business.

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A RED CROSS CHRISTMAS.

To Those Who Feel Poor:
I write as your brother.
We are a large family.
This world-war made in Germany, against which we are fighting, has sent our incomes down and our expenses up.
The pinch hurts, but it is not going to kill us.
We still have enough and something to spare.
Though we feel poor, don't let us be impoverished by selfish fear!
Let us save in food, in service, in clothes, in luxuries and joy rides—but not in money!
Let us use that by giving it to save the wounded, the suffering, our friends, our country!
Let us keep Christmas this year by keeping up the Red Cross!
Then it will not be a poor Christmas, but a rich Christmas to our hearts.

(Signed) HENRY VAN DYKE.