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GIVE US THE NEWS!

GIVE us the news, whatsoever may happen,
Glorious triumph or gloom of defeat;
Dare not, presume not with heartstrings to meddle,
Thinking to temper the tension and beat.
Give us the news!

Give us the news of the boys who have left us;
Hold not the worst from the gaze of our eyes.
Think you that we who have sired them that battle
Lack for the strength from disaster to rise?
Give us the news!

Give us the news of our fighters, our children;
Tell us the whole, nor from sorrow refrain,
Think you that we who have borne them that suffer
Know not the way to be valiant in pain?
Give us the news!

Give us the news whatsoever may happen,
Victory joyful or loss in the fray;
Keep not the cup the Almighty has poured us.
God is the censor—stand out of the way.
Give us the news!

—McLandburgh Wilson, in Life.

* * * *

WILL IT WORK?

SECRETARY LANE of the Department of the Interior, ever on the alert to engage in a worthy enterprise, has proposed that the government reclaim vast areas of soil suitable for cultivation, for the use and benefit of the soldiers when they return from the war. The plan strikes one's fancy, but is it practicable?

The government has had some sorry experience in this direction in times past. At the close of the Civil War each veteran who had retired from the service with an honorable discharge was granted a quarter-section of Western land. It was intended to assist the ex-soldiers to find useful employment and to get a new start in life. It was also hoped that they would settle on their respective tracts and thus aid directly in the reclamation of the untamed plains of the West. But few were disposed to do this. Instead, they disposed of their rights for little or nothing, and the land sharks who made a business of gobbling up these soldier grants really proved to be the only beneficiaries.

Likewise with the scheme to reclaim and cultivate the South by first granting the negro his freedom, and then giving him forty acres and a mule. The plan wouldn't work; the colored man simply couldn't contain himself in all this new found prosperity; he proceeded to either waste his substance or go to sleep on the job; and the South found itself in worse shape than it was before the war. The government has also sought to educate and encourage the Indian by granting him a stretch of land and other substantial considerations, but this ward of Uncle Sam is a poor tiller of the soil.

Of course the soldiers who will return from abroad are of a much higher order of intelligence and enterprise than the class of home-steaders mentioned above. No doubt many of them could make a great success with such a project, providing they cared to engage in

THE COUNTRY NEEDS
YOUR HELP

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The Bread For
The Little Tots

Mothers—the question of supplying good bread to your families is solely and directly up to you. Bread cannot be too good for children; they must have foods which give the utmost in nourishment and energy. For this reason you should see to it that your children eat bread of no less quality than Royal Bread.

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