



## *Humanity's Appeal!*

Written for the **RED CROSS CHRISTMAS ROLL CALL**

By **HENRY C. WAGSTAFF**

The Red Cross sounds a clarion call  
Throughout the land—the call for all.

A call that carries the holy thought,  
Of Christian victory, dearly bought.

Revoked, the guns of carnage cease:  
Supernal, wings the dove of Peace,

Yet from devastated lands ascend the cries  
Of hurt and homeless: war's sacrifice.

A mighty chorus of pain and woe,  
Wells up to Heaven, from the crushing blow.

For Flanders' fields are blight and bare;  
Where once they fruited rich and fair:

Where once the poppies gloried red,  
Now sleep the hosts of martyred dead.

Returning home, where no homes are,  
Instead, the wrecks of battle scar,

The legions view, yet scarce understand,  
The chaos of destruction's ruthless hand.

In grief's deep abyss of despair,  
Plunged are the stricken everywhere.

Shall orphaned lips now moan in vain?  
Shall helpless waifs unhelped remain?

Shall aged and ailing, sick and failing,  
Suffer on, their fate bewailing?

Shall hunger stalk, and famine reign,  
To add their toll to the pitied slain?

Shall desolation's fearful hand  
Remain unstayed to scourge the land?

Shall ruined homes in ruins stay?  
And tortured fields in torture lay?

Shall blackened hearths, whence hope has fled,  
Be left, reminders of their dead?

The Red Cross answers its thundering NO!  
Its blazoned banners forward go!

Against the tide of woe unfurled,  
To stanch the wounds of a war crushed world.

In the wake of destruction's fearful blight,  
The Red Cross follows in Christian MIGHT!

To reach the afflicted. To SAVE—to heal:  
To hear the faintest cry. The farthest appeal.

The war is over. The fighting done.  
But the work of the Red Cross is newly begun.

For the human wreckage in the lands over sea,  
Is the heritage of the Red Cross and humanity.

You can't go yourself, but the help you can give,  
Will help the Red Cross to help others live.

"Your heart and a Dollar" the appeal to all:  
Universal Membership in the Christmas Roll Call.

*The Red Cross Christmas Roll Call depends on your individual support to make "UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP" possible. Have your "Red Cross Dollar" ready when the solicitor calls*

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