



Appeal from the Trenches

The following verses were written by Private Herbert Joseph Chivers, 2nd Wilts Regiment, serving at the front:-

Would you see old England ruined
While you're staying safe at home,
While your chums are bravely fighting
In a country o'er the foam?

Do you read the Roll of Honour
That appears from day to day
In all your leading papers -
Or have you missed it, pray?

You little know the hardships
Your chums have undergone;
For nine long, weary months
They have kept your homes from wrong.

Their losses have been heavy;
Who's going to take the place
Of those who have gone under
To uphold the British race?

Give up your life of pleasure,
And learn to use a gun.
'Twill be more to your credit,
When this great war is won.

There are many who are lacking
To respond to Britain's call;
And the Motherland is waiting
For your answer, one and all.

Enlist in Kitchener's Army
And prove yourself a man;
Your King and country need you
Now, deny it if you can.

This appeal is from a soldier,
And from the firing line,
Where the fight for Britain's freedom
But keep cheerful all the time

Unknown Wiltshire Newspaper, 1914-1918