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On the Rue Du Bois. [1914-1918]

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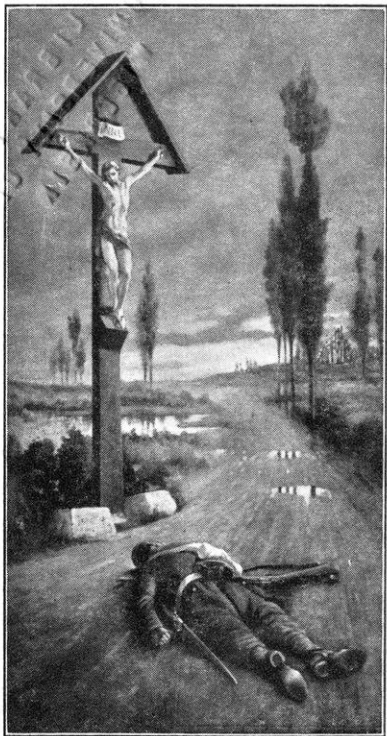
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ON THE RUE
DU BOIS



O pallid Christ within this broken shrine,
Not those torn Hands and not that Heart of
Thine
Have given the nations blood to drink like wine.
Through weary years and 'neath the changing
skies,
Men turned their back on those appealing Eyes
And scorned as vain Thine awful Sacrifice.
Kings with their armies, children in their play,
Have past unheeding down this shell-ploughed
way,
The great world knew not where its true
strength lay.
In pomp and luxury, in lust of gold,
In selfish ease, in pleasures manifold,
"Evil is good, good evil," we were told.
Yet here, where nightly the great flare-lights
gleam,
And murder stalks triumphant in their beam,
The world has wakened from its empty dream.
At last, O Christ, in this strange, darkened land,
Where ruined homes lie round on every hand,
Life's deeper truths men come to understand.
For lonely graves along the country side,
Where sleep those brave hearts who for others
died,
Tell of life's union with the Crucified.
And new light kindles in the mourner's eyes,
Like day-dawn breaking through the rifted skies,
For Life is born of life's self-sacrifice.

FREDERICK GEORGE SCOTT.

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