

### I Saw The Vision Of Armies

I saw the vision of armies;  
And I saw, as in noiseless dreams, hundreds of battle-flags,  
Borne through the smoke of the battles and pierced with missiles, I saw  
them,  
And carried, hither and yon through the smoke, and torn and bloody;  
And at last but a few shreds of 'the flags left on the staffs, (and all in  
silence,)  
And the staffs all splintered and broken.

I saw battle-corpses, myriads of them,  
And the white skeletons of young men, I saw them;  
I saw the debris and debris of all dead soldiers,  
But I saw they were not as was thought;  
They themselves were fully at rest, they suffered not;  
The living remained and suffered, the mother suffered,  
And the wife and the child and the musing comrade suffered,  
And the armies that remained suffered..