

## THEN AND NOW

When battles were fought  
With a chivalrous sense of Should and Ought,  
In spirit men said,  
"End we quick or dead,  
Honour is some reward!  
Let us fight fair--for our own best or worst;  
So, Gentlemen of the Guard,  
Fire first!"

In the open they stood,  
Man to man in his knightlihood:  
They would not deign  
To profit by a stain  
On the honourable rules,  
Knowing that practise perfidy no man durst  
Who in the heroic schools  
Was nurst.

But now, behold, what  
Is warfare wherein honour is not!  
Rama laments  
Its dead innocents:

Herod breathes: "Sly slaughter  
Shall rule! Let us, by modes once called accurst,  
Overhead, under water,  
Stab first."

1915.