

A New Year's Greeting (to our brave defenders frae oor ain countryside)

We have received a number of verses with the above heading from Miss Georgina Russell, Ecclesmachan. We regret that we cannot insert all the verses, but the following are a few of the best

Ye laddies frae Broxburn, frae Inchmachan an' Upha'
Oh, oor thochts are ever wi' yem though ye've been sae lang awa'
An' we send ye kindest greetings, noo the year is near a close
Trustin' ere he new ane's ended, ye'll hae vanquished a' oor foes.

In a' the gallant charges oor brave Scots were tae the fore
An' it made ma hert leap wildly – for I'm Scottish tae the core
That ye a' were in the thick o't made the bluid rush thro'ma veins
I could see ye dashin' onwards tae the stirrin' bagpipes strains.

Oh, ye've won a glorious record an' 'twill brichten a' your life
That ye lent a haund in endin' aince for a' this fearfu' strife
That ye crushed the Prussian bully, an' his pooer for ever broke
When he fain wad laid the warl' underneath his iron yolk

Noo the fear that's fast approachin' haude momentous days in store
An' the huns will learn a lesson that they never learnt afore
Oh I feel there's victory comin' – yes 'tis dawin' ever near
God grant peace be established, lang ere ends the dawnin' year.

Warmest greetings tae ye laddies – oh I rain wad clasp yer han'
By yer darin' deeds a' valour, ye hae served oor native lan'
Hoo ye rallied tae the standard, when the war flag was unfurled
Yer pluck and strong endurance, are the wonders o' the warld.

Georgina Russell, Hillside Cottage Ecclesmachan

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