

The
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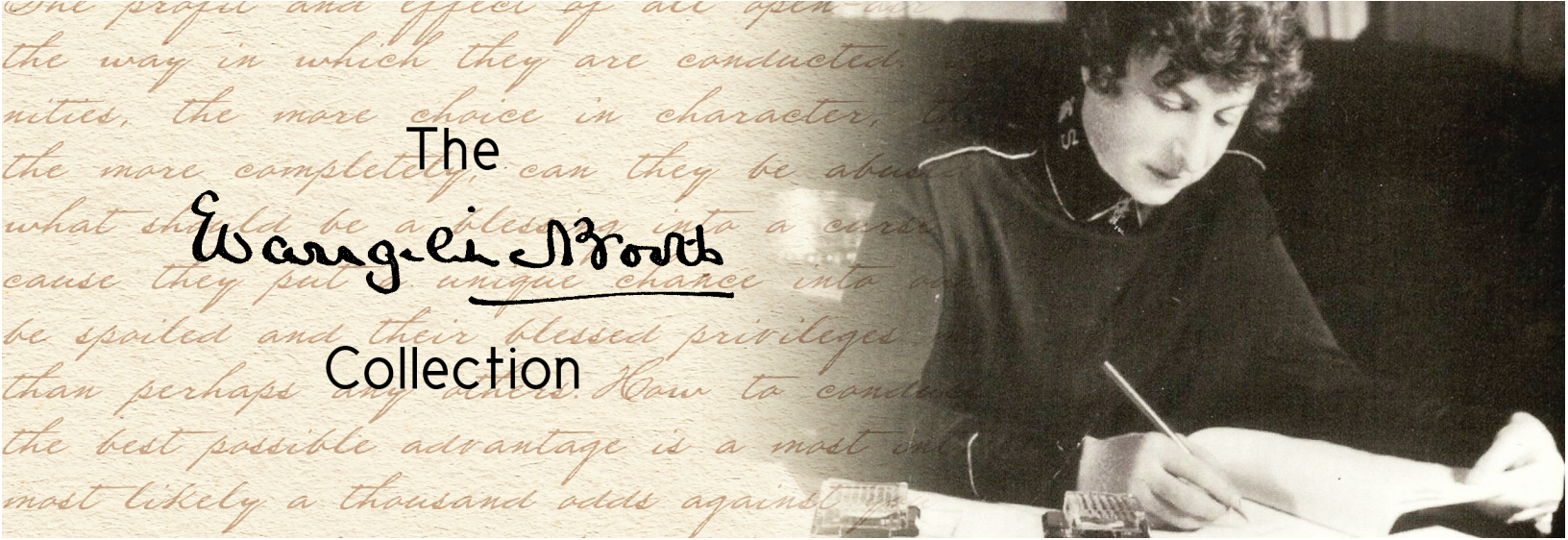
HON. H. B. F. MACFARLAND
An Appreciation

Seldom has a duty so affected me as does this, to which I now turn. The Hon. Henry B. F. MacFarland was to the officers and soldiers of The Salvation Army both comrade and friend. His noble character endeared him to all who knew him, but some had the good fortune to know him better than in a casual sense, and I was among those thus privileged. It is as his friend that I am inditing this message, which I fain would render in person were that at all possible, but the pressure of long-standing public engagements connected with a work which he so dearly loved precludes my coming. This available medium left to me is used and committed to one of my trusted representatives to deliver.

The elements that went to make the Hr. MacFarland's rare and striking character compelled a deep admiration, and chief among these was his almost exhaustless patience. This enabled him to be quiet and strong amid most disturbing circumstances, and I instinctively felt that unbroken contact had been established between the seat Source of Patience and himself, and that its unending flow was but an expression of the Master's life in man.

So it was with Mr. MacFarland's steadfastness. Rock-like in this he was staunchly loyal to those convictions and privileges that he had embraced early in life, and which made him such an exemplary Christian gentleman, adorning the church to which he belonged, greatly enriching the causes which he espoused, and ever standing as a bright and true light in the city which was honored by his residence.

These qualities of heart and will were well matched by the mental powers with which nature had so amply endowed him, and which were, from an early age, consecrated to the highest ends. The refining and multiplying results of such a noble consecration were remarkably evidenced in the comprehensiveness of Mr. MacFarland's insight into perplexing problems, and of this rich quality I have many times been able to avail myself when feeling the need of counsel and help of one mature in wisdom.



Then, too, he was kingly in his love for humanity. This seemed to me to so differentiate him from many who were his peers in other attainments. He had a large heart, and it was always full to overflowing with disinterested and Christ-like love for the most needy. Probably this was the reason for his great and helpful allegiance to The Salvation Army, for Mr. MacFarland was one of our earliest friends. He took his stand by the side of this movement when such association meant very much to the devotee; and I can not here say how much it meant to the favored cause. He knew well and loved my father, the Founder of The Salvation Army; and my father, from the first time of their meeting, held him in most affectionate esteem. When poverty, misunderstanding and calumny were so largely our lot this noble outstanding man promptly recognized the distinguishing feature of The Salvation Army as being a great and unquenchable love for the lost, and with the bravery of a chivalrous Christian knight he proclaimed to all his friendship for this work, and that devoted support has been unfailing all through the succeeding years. No stint of time or treasure of brain, influence and heart has ever been withheld. He was our loyal and devoted friend whether in the private councils of the Executive Mansion or as advocate upon the public platform.

So it is that not only in a personal sense do I pay this tribute to a dear, departed friend, but the imperfect eulogium is rendered still more in a representative capacity as the leader of a grateful people, The Salvation Army sincerely praises God for the wealth of this great man's life and the immeasurable service it has rendered the organization. That Mr. MacFarland was with us so long will ever be reason for abounding thankfulness.

How The Salvation Army prays that Divine support may be granted Mrs. MacFarland; that the Heaven-promised light of His consolation may transform the shadow which her beloved husband's passing has cast upon her way into gold, making more clearly defined the path to the skies.

(N.Y.W.C.) (November 5, 1921)