

"WE MUST DO OUR SHARE FOR THE MISSIONARY FIELD"
Self-Denial Letter

My Dear Officers and Soldiers:

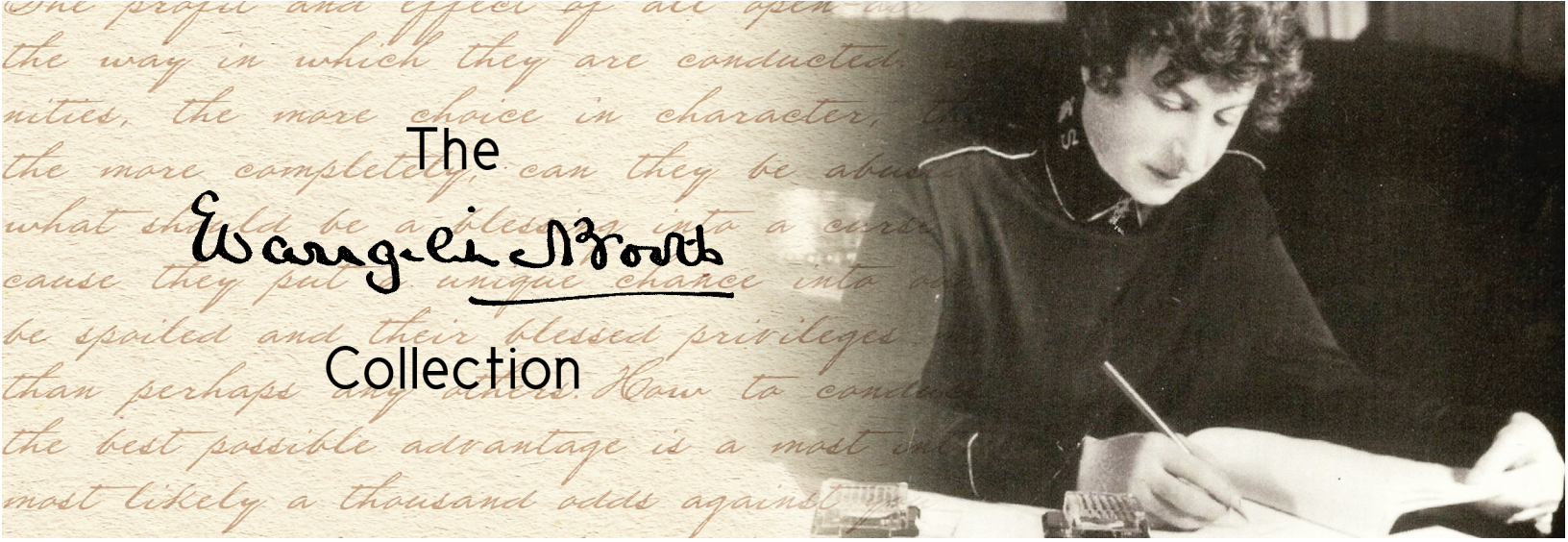
My heart is always deeply stirred by the words self-denial. Indeed. I am convinced that they are so in the blood of the Salvation Army officer of even a few years' standing as to be part of his very life.

It is not, therefore, because I think you need to be roused to your duties, or awakened to your opportunities in the approaching Self-Denial effort that I am led to write you now. But rather because experience has taught me the tremendous inspiration and power it is to us as an organization to feel that although we may be filling apparently widely diverse spheres of service, yet we are all thinking the same thought, all actuated by the same motive, all animated by the same spirit, all bound together by the same ties of love to God and love to man; and that in an unceasing rhythm and harmony all our efforts unite for the accomplishment of the one Heaven-inspired purpose — WINNING THE WORLD FOR GOD:

MOST DAUNTLESS FAITH NECESSARY

This is especially so as regards the annual Self-Denial effort, when the greatest amount of courage, the highest degree of enthusiasm, the clearest vision of the ends to be attained, the utmost force of which we are unitedly capable, and the most dauntless faith are necessary to overcome the gigantic obstacles that stand in the way of our success.

And SUCCESS is by no means all we ask of our efforts this year. WE MUST BRICAK ALL RECORDS! While we have every reason to be grateful for the generous manner in which the people of America have responded to our various financial appeals, yet we cannot overlook the fact that in the securing of purely missionary funds for foreign use we have fallen below the results which our rapidly developing missionary fields have a right to demand from us. I am aware that there are reasons for this which are difficult to overcome — still, we must do better! And we



can only do better by being determined to do better and by aiming higher. We must think more, ask more, expect more, and God will answer our faith, for the work is His.

My dear officers and soldiers, let us not be afraid of personal self-denial. It is self-denial that has brought our work up from the first little nucleus of a London mission meeting to its present thousands of organized corps and active social centers in 76 different countries and colonies. And it is only by the continuation of the principle of self-denial in every branch of our service that we can hope to maintain this marvelous rate of development.

WE MUST DO OUR SHARE

The opportunities of The Salvation Army in non-Christian lands for preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for rendering humanitarian and beneficent services, and for the establishment of the many agencies of relief that have ever gone hand in hand with the spread of the Christian religion, were never more numerous than at the present day. The "fields are white unto harvest," and we of America — America, with its almost limitless resources; America, with its great-hearted people; America, with its cosmopolitan population — giving her interests in so many lands; America., that has come to the aid of The Salvation Army again and again with a generosity unequaled in any other country — we of America must do our share to raise the funds and to supply the helpers necessary to gather the immortal wealth of this living harvest into the garner of our Lord.

Now, come, my officers and soldiers. I lift the bugle to my lips and call everyone, from highest rank to the last recruit, into line of action! I am so anxious that the heart of our General shall rejoice in a record-breaking Self-Denial from America, and that a great light shall be lifted in darkness because we have suffered and toiled and sacrificed.

Yours, relying upon you to be in at the start and out first at the finish,

EVANGELINE BOOTH,
Commander.

(March 24, 1923)