

(Letter to London Times, June 22, 1915, p. 9,c)

THE MOBILIZATION OF FAITH.

Oxford, June 19.

To the Editor of the Times.

Sir: - May I protest against the pessimism of the letter which appeared in today's issue of The Times under the above heading? My friend Mr. Burroughs* writes from the cave of Elijah. It is not true that "since August our faith has wavered and our light has failed." Can he not hear above the tumult of the wind, the earthquake, and the fire the still, small voice which has stirred the Empire to its depths? If, as he says, "the spiritual forces as were then at our command have been broken and scattered", it means they were not the weapons of Gideon, but Egyptian reeds fit only to be cast away. The faith worth having in the present crisis has been mobilized, a faith everywhere manifest, whose word is made perfect in sacrifice.

In these troublous days, when to many even God's providence seems estranged, it behooves us all, clergy and laity alike, to strengthen the weak hands and confirm the feeble knees, and to look back on the past ten months with thankfulness for what has been accomplished, and to face the future with a courage begotten of confidence in ourselves and in our cause.

I am yours, &c.,

William Osler.

*Rev. E. A. Burroughs, Oxford.

copy Mr. Burroughs letter