ARGONAUT AND JUGGERNAUT

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Argonaut and juggernaut by Osbert Sitwell

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OSBERT SITWELL

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My thanks are due to Messrs. Blackwell for permission to reprint certain poems which first appeared in the anthology "Wheels," and to the editors of The Times, the Nalion, Art and Letters, the Cambridge Magazine, Everyman, Colour, New Paths, and Poetry and Drama (New Series), for allowing me to reprint various poems which first appeared in their columns. Several of the war verses at the end of this volume first appeared in the Nation under the signature "Miles."

"HOW SHALL WE RISE TO GREET THE DAWN?"

How shall we rise to greet the dawn?

Not timidly,

With a hand above our eyes,

But greet the strong light

Joyfully;

Nor will we mistake the dawn

For the mid-day.

We must create and fashion a new God— A God of power, of beauty, and of strength— Created painfully, cruelly, Labouring from the revulsion of men's minds.

It is not that the money-changers
Ply their trade
Within the sacred places;
But that the old God
Has made the Stock Exchange his Temple.
We must drive him from it.
Why should we tinker with clay feet?
We will fashion
A perfect unity
Of precious metals.