

**THE FULL MEASURE  
OF DEVOTION**

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The Full Measure of Devotion by Dana Gatlin

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**DANA GATLIN**

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OF DEVOTION**



# THE FULL MEASURE OF DEVOTION

BY  
DANA GATLIN



K.

GARDEN CITY      NEW YORK  
DOUBLEDAY, PAGE & COMPANY

1918

40

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To  
MY FATHER AND MOTHER

1925  
1926  
1927  
1928

## INTRODUCTION

THE story which goes to make this little volume I had the privilege of reading in manuscript. An hour after it came to me at *McClure's* I accepted it by telephone.

Like all editors, I have had submitted to me during the past three years stories and stories—and again stories—of the Great War. Every author's mind seemed to race in the direction of the conflict that has torn the world. American writers, no less than the British group, attempted, as early as October, 1914, to depict the actual struggle—as they imagined it. The result was pathetic. We

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in the United States knew nothing of the realities of the War then; we know little even now. Therefore what I, as an editor, was most interested in, and desired most to get for my readers, was the story which would show, not so much the actions of the War as its reactions. The vibrations were tremendous; but who could feel them, and, feeling them, transmit them to paper?

I recall no piece of literature—and Miss Gatlin's story, unless I am greatly mistaken, is literature—that has so brought home to me in these perilous days what this War shall come to mean to the mothers and fathers of America. The spirit of noble sacrifice that these parents in "The Full Measure of Devotion"—how fine that phrase of Lincoln's is!—felt and kept hidden from



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each other brings the tears to one's eyes, and something that we dare not name into one's heart. Here is a vision of the day to be—may it not come too soon!—when you and I shall realize the actual agony, yet some of the beauty and grandeur, of this War.

I wish that every one might read this little tale. To read it once is to wish to read it again, and then to pass it on to a friend who will understand. I am proud that *McClure's* published it first, and happy now to have it in this permanent form. It is one of the few stories to keep—forever.

CHARLES HANSON TOWNE.'



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