

Old Warrior

Old warrior, take your rest now...with Taps the day is done,
The demons all are slain now...and yes...the battle won;
They will return, of course, in frames not yet supposed
And damn your progeny in ways anew composed;
But you have fought your war...your generation's curse,
Which you well knew – from life – the next war would rehearse;
You fought it well...courageously...nothing to regret
Except, of course, that it was hell...something to forget;
Old warrior, take your rest now...as evensong is heard,
Take pride you kept your head, with all around absurd;
Take solace in its message...God lives and welcomes you...
And waits with all the blessings He promised would be due;
Old warrior, take your rest now...as light fades into night,
Bivouac with the saints gone on...in never-ending light.