

fleets, numbering thirty-three ships, ventured out of the harbour, and were attacked by Nelson, who had again resumed command, with twenty-seven ships of the line. In less than five hours, the allied fleets were hopelessly shattered off Cape Trafalgar. Just as the fight began Nelson hung out his famous signal, "England expects every man to do his duty." Early in the fight he was struck by a musket ball, and died in the moment of victory, murmuring, "Thank God, I have done my duty."

"Wherever brave deeds are treasured and told,
 In the tales of the deeds of yore,
 Like jewels of price in a chain of gold
 Are the name and the fame he bore.
 Wherever the track of our English ships
 Lies white on the ocean foam,
 His name is sweet to our English lips,
 As the names of the flowers at home."

Twenty-four of the enemy's ships surrendered or were destroyed, and twenty thousand prisoners were taken. Napoleon's last hope of supremacy was gone. He might easily replace the ships, the men, and the guns; he could never hope to inspire his seamen with any confidence of success. "England has saved herself by her courage," said Pitt; "she will save Europe by her example."

Even before Trafalgar, Pitt had succeeded in forming another coalition of the European powers against Napoleon. But the French emperor acted with his usual promptness, and, marching with the Boulogne army against the Austrians, crushed their hopes in the battle of Austerlitz. This disaster to his ally so preyed upon Pitt that on January 23rd, 1806, he died, worn out in the service of his country. On his death he was succeeded as foreign secretary by Charles James Fox, but Fox survived his great rival only eight months.

The battle of Jena now placed Prussia under the control of Napoleon, who seized the opportunity to revive his plan for the total ruin of British commerce. From Berlin, decrees were issued declaring a blockade of Britain. All commerce with her was forbidden, and British manufac-