

Only

*Only a man in khaki
Setting out to face the foe,
Only a chorus ringing –
“It’s a long, long way to go.”*

*Only a type of courage
With both honest heart and will
Loving his home and country –
Son of England, hero still.*

*Only a goodbye whispered
Amidst tears we must not see;
Only a British soldier –
Ah, But all the world to me*

Bessie Matthews February 1915

A Thought About Colemere in Wartime

*I’m thinking still this wartime
Of the woods around Colemere
Though I know full well my thinking
Will not bring them very near
But I seem to see the shadows
Lying far across the Lake
When the red clouds gather westward
And the owls begin to wake*

Gordon Egerton 16th July 1917