

But, as the fingers went, the eyes went, and the thoughts. And as Madame Defarge moved on from group to group, all three went quicker and fiercer among every little knot of women that she had spoken with, and left behind.

Her husband smoked at his door, looking after her with admiration. 'A great woman,' said he, 'a strong woman, a grand woman, a frightfully grand woman!'

Darkness closed around, and then came the ringing of church bells and the distant beating of the military drums in the Palace Court-yard, as the women sat knitting, knitting. Darkness encompassed them. Another darkness was closing in as surely, when the church bells, then ringing pleasantly in many an airy steeple over France, should be melted into thundering cannon; when the military drums should be beating to drown a wretched voice, that night all-potent as the voice of Power and Plenty, Freedom and Life. So much was closing in about the women who sat knitting, knitting, that they their very selves were closing in around a structure yet unbuilt, where they were to sit knitting, knitting, counting dropping heads.

Charles Dickens

الألفاظ والعبارات :

The ringing of church bells	رنين أجراس الكنائس
Beating of the military drums	دق الطبول العسكرية
The women sat knitting	جلست النساء تسرّد
To encompass	شمّل
Steeple	برج الكنيسة
Thundering cannon	المدافع المرعدة
To drown a wretched voice	لتحجب صوتاً بألسا
Counting dropping heads	تعد الرؤوس المتساقطة