with deeply moving sincerity, it is essentially an inquiry into the causes of the war and a plea for humility, gratitude and justice: for recognition by Americans of their nation’s guilt and failures in the past; for recognition by Americans of their debt to the peoples of England, Russia and China, to all the peoples who suffered and opposed oppression; for just dealing by Americans, first with the oppressed within their own boundaries, and then with other nations, the weak as well as the strong.

Moore was keenly aware of his country’s weaknesses: of the greed, the prejudices and the false thinking that had beset its past and that threatened its future. But, having seen the qualities of his countrymen at war, he dreamed that America might yet realize the true greatness of which he perceived her already capable. Such was the hope which sustained him, such the faith in which he fought and died.

Richard Moore had three brothers, all of whom served in the Armed Forces during the Second World War. One of them, Pfc. William S. Moore, Jr., an alumnus of St. Mark’s School, was killed in action in France, November 8, 1944.