

who is able to measure the woe entailed upon a country, aside from the field of blood?

It is difficult to estimate the effect upon the morals of the people. Agitation and suspense, render it almost impossible to exercise calm thought or serious reflection. The duties of religion are neglected. The sanctuary of the Lord is forsaken and the gates of Zion mourn and are desolate. Accustomed in time to slaughter and death, the people acquire a hard and unfeeling character. Avaricious and covetous men are not slow to cheat the government and rob the people. Confidence is impaired, hatred is engendered and the seeds of disorder and internal strife are sown broadcast. Besides all this, once happy homes are reduced to ashes. Once flourishing villages and towns are now desolate and in ruins, orchards and vineyards destroyed, fields laid waste; bridges, canals, railroads, factories, telegraphs, colleges, churches damaged or entirely annihilated, requiring many years of toil and millions of money to replace; thus for many long years burdening the people with ruinous taxes.

Added to this, thousands of cripples are thrown upon the State, or upon the cold charities of the world for support, ruined in character, as a general rule, as well as disabled in body.

Six years after the close of the American war, the number of pensioners upon the rolls was 187,672, of whom 87,000 were invalided army and navy pensioners, and the rest were widows and other dependent relatives. The annual amount paid to all these as pensioners was over 27 million dollars.

War, is indeed, a "pestilence that walketh in darkness and a destruction that wasteth at noonday."

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CHRISTIANITY aims at a nobler style of manhood, and at a better and happier style of living. Christianity means friendship carried up into a sphere, whereby the natural man could never elevate it. It means the purest enjoyments of earth as well as heaven. It means that life shall blossom like Aaron's rod. And every man who is a true Christian is one who has lived up to the measure of his competency, in a bright and joyful life, compared with which all other lives are low and ignoble.