

NEW YEAR'S ADDRESS
TO THE
CONGREGATION OF TRINITY CHURCH,
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

Two eventful years have passed away since I distributed among you a few printed lines, by way of putting you in remembrance of the things that pertain to your everlasting peace.

Abroad there have since been wars and rumours of wars,—Nation has risen up against Nation. The powerful Monarch has been vanquished, dethroned, and called to his great account. There have been earthquakes, and terrific tempests, and unexampled floods and fires in divers places. The mighty ocean has become the grave of tens of thousands of our fellow-creatures, until the Archangel's trump shall resound through its vast and unexplored caverns, and make the sea give up its dead, including numbers who have left desolated homes in our own land. The pestilence that walketh in darkness, and the sickness that destroyeth at noon day, have taken, and are still taking their deadly march to and fro upon the earth, sweeping from its face hundreds of thousands of young and old, high and low. Famine too, has been permitted to depopulate widespread lands, and consign millions to a fearful death.

We have read of all these terrible things; we have seen them from afar, and no doubt our hearts have been shocked, and have throbbed with deep sympathy for the sufferings of our common humanity, and, it is hoped, they have also warmed with devout thankfulness, to the great Ruler of all things, that we have been spared; that our lot is cast in a land favoured beyond most other portions of the earth; that we are strangers to wars and commotions; that we have been blest with health and plenty; that sea and land have yielded good returns for the labors of our