

again the story of the life and teachings of this lowly Jesus of Nazareth, whose whole history is one of humility, kindness, patience, love and forgiveness; who brought the new commandment "That ye love one another," and whose last prayer was for the forgiveness of his enemies.

The history of the different peace organizations, the good accomplished thereby, and the continued effort being put forth in this direction, portend great good, and we believe will be the means of ushering in an era when war and its horrors and desolations will be no more.

The apparent disgust with which the civilized world to-day regards the war in the Orient, together with the effort being made by outside parties to bring about a peaceable end to the conflict, shows that sentiment is rapidly rising above such relics of barbarism, and that part of the Christian world at least are trying to put into practice the precepts of the religion that they profess. That a portion of the people have not yet fully awakened to the full meaning and import of the Gospel of Peace is evident by the persistency with which militarism is trying to be established into the public school system of our country of boasted freedom.

The plan recommended by the Secretary of War, not long since, and so graciously commended by Ex-President Harrison and others, to teach our children military tactics, and that they have a country to defend and to be able to defend it, has awakened an honest, earnest opposition by peaceably concerned people all along the lines. None too soon, however, for already the plan has been adopted by several cities, and the drill becomes a part of the daily programme. Even the good old city of "Brotherly Love" has given way to its allurements in spite of the earnest protest of the better element of the city.

Why should men of public influence and especially those who, like Benj. Harrison, professing to be followers of

the Prince of Peace, sanction a measure so thoroughly obnoxious to Christian people? Perhaps it is equally superfluous for a nobody like me to criticise those who have occupied the highest positions of our nation. But let me say just here, with all the intensity of a mother's love, that had Ex-President Harrison been a mother, and if it were *his* son that were to be trained to shoot some other mother's son, he never would have favored such a scheme.

In a few more years these great (?) men of to-day will have passed away, the bells will toll and the last salute be fired. Then will the whole world mourn, part of them because a great general and statesman has gone, and the other part because the effect of such military teaching could not die and be buried with the originator. But, dear friends, it will not, and we must bestir ourselves before these seeds, perhaps thoughtlessly sown, are so firmly rooted that they cannot be eradicated, and our free public schools—the nation's pride—become miniature forts and arsenals.

The military drill of religious schools is deplorably inconsistent, to put it mild. For instance, the minister to-day preaches an eloquent appeal for "Peace on earth, good will toward men." To-morrow at a meeting of bishops and trustees discuss plans for the furthering of the interests of their school. The military drill is hit upon, adopted, and the preacher goes home, perhaps never dreaming of the distance between his preaching and his practicing.

Some may say that we teach the military drill for its physical effects, and not to inculcate war sentiment. But to show how preposterous the idea, just take note of the fact that the greatest military nations have their recruits take from three to twelve months training in the gymnasium to develop them as *men* before they are fit for *soldiers*.

Again, we are commanded to avoid the appearance of evil. It has been truly said that "What you put into the