

blows so rapid, heavy and overwhelming last year? Was it because she had better arms? No! Was it because she had more men to send into the field? No! But it was because she had better men; because the German soldier was not a mere fighting machine like the hordes of Russians, among whom there is no enthusiasm and no intelligence; but an educated citizen, a scholar who has passed through the schools of his country, and who perfectly understands the issues at stake; while many of the French officers, not to speak of the rank and file, could not write their own names!

By her schools and colleges, Germany has put intelligence into her people and courage into her soldiers, and thus every man she sends to the field, so to speak, is a double man; every army, a double army; every general a double, treble general—so that the power of the country is overwhelming. Therefore, I think the government of the country is acting wisely in making such ample provision as they have done, for the generous and free education of youth; and when I think of the number of our schools, and the growing facilities extended to the rising generation for improving their minds, I am inclined to take up these words in a grateful spirit: "Walk about Zion, etc."

Another very cheering feature of the country, and one which promises well for the future, is the disposition more and more manifested on the part of the strong to help the weak—the growing sense of their responsibility to lift up those that are bound down. When in Montreal lately, I was much interested with the effort put forth in behalf of the poor boys and girls that had no helper—the efforts of the wealthy of that great city to raise those that are bowed down, to reclaim the drunkard, encourage the weak, and to evangelise the mass and bring them under the influence of the Word. And what is true of Montreal, is true of all the great cities on the continent—New York, Boston, Baltimore; and no less in London and Liverpool, and Glasgow and Edinburgh! It is a good sign of the country when its nobles and great men, such as the Earl of Shaftesbury and the Duke of Argyle, are found ready for such work—illustrious by reason of their position, but shedding additional lustre upon their coronets by such works of faith and labors of love. The time was when such a spectacle was scarcely to be found; when the nobleman shut himself up in his splendid mansion, and kept himself apart from the common people for fear of defilement. How different the conduct of Him who went about continually doing good! He healed the leper—and how? Did he wave His hand, and say: "Away, away! Come not near, lest you defile me?" No; but He drew near and touched him with His hand, and His sympathy, and His love; and who does not know that a kind word spoken, a generous deed done, has a balm and a power to cure which no dole of cold charity can command? Let us not forget that we are *members one of another*; that evil is contagious; that unless the