

is hardened ; the finer feelings of our nature are crushed ; darkness and desolation reign without, and satan reigns within the souls of nations and of men. Peace presents a marked contrast to this.

Nothing can be more pleasant than to view nature at peace. The hills and the valleys bathed in the sunshine and waving with the golden grain ; the sun-kissed earth blushing with flowers. The calmly flowing river silvered by moonlight. The glorious ocean fanned with the gentle breeze and bearing upon its bosom the white sailed vessels carrying from shore to shore the wealth and commerce and the comforts and luxuries of many climes.

How happy the peaceful homes where God is loved, where prayer and praise is heard, and upon whose peaceful altars burns the light of Holy Writ. Well has the great Scotch poet said, in the Cotter's Saturday Night :

" O, Scotia, my dear, my native soil,
For whom my warmest wish to Heaven is sent,
Long may thy hardy sons of rustic toil
Be blest with health, and peace and sweet content."

It is not only pleasant to witness a peaceful family circle, but it is most gratifying to behold peace pervading all classes of the community. There is nothing more calculated to preserve and increase prosperity in temporal as well as in spiritual affairs. In the 133rd Psalm, King David said : " Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, that went down to the skirts of his garments. As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountain of Zion ; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forever more."

Peace is promised to the righteous as a blessing.

In the 29th Psalm we read : " The Lord will give strength unto His people ; the Lord will bless His people with peace." God says, in the 48th chapter of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah : " O that thou hadst hearkened to My commandments, then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea ;" and again in the 55th chapter, " Ye shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace ; the mountains and hills shall break forth before you into singing." Nor can we forget that the most precious legacy Jesus left to His people and to His Church was peace. In St. John, 14th chapter, 27th verse, we read : " Peace I leave with you, My peace I give