

Then ring out again the glad doctrine of
Peace,

'Till it touches the world's farthest
shore,

'Till the wild waste and ruin of blood-shed
shall cease,

And the earth shall learn war, nevermore!

JULIA M. DUTTON.

Waterloo, N.Y., 6th mo. 13th, 1898.

NOTES ON A SERMON BY ISAAC
WILSON, AT GENESEE Y. M.,
1898.

"As in Adam all die, so in Christ shall
all be made alive."

Let us take this passage of Scripture as the basis of individual study this afternoon, not that we wish to talk doctrine or to introduce any new doctrine by which the human soul may be saved, but that we may perchance make a new and a truer application of the old. This Adam, I conceive to be humanity—the human, and mark the present tense in our text. As in Adam all *die*, not all have died. Though God warned him that in the day he ate thereof he should surely die, the fact was that Adam did not die at all, physically, until many years after, so it must have been meant spiritually. So in Jesus, shall all be made alive, not through Jesus' physical life or the losing of it, but through the spiritual life, the divine life, the Christ. Neither is it true that the soul literally dies when it sins, because death means loss of consciousness, of sensibility, but I conceive that it simply means a loss of the characteristics of active life. Sin, it is said, is transgression of the law. It may be an omission to fulfill the law as well as an active violation of it.

There is much speculation in the origin of sinfulness in human nature. Although a Friend, I am a firm believer in original sin, I believe it originates in the very soul that commits it. I do not believe in inherited sin, although observation forces me to acknowledge that the tendencies to

and effects of sin sometimes visits the children to the third and fourth generations; that these tendencies are stronger in the children because of the uncontrolled passions in the parents, hence the awful responsibilities resting upon parents to keep their own wills and propensities duly governed lest undue and abnormal tendencies be transmitted to the offspring. But whatever may be our inheritance, each human soul is responsible alone for its own acts, and if it feels itself weak in the face of fearful odds, it need only ask in faith of God for strength to overcome, and strength will be vouchsafed; man's work is a co-partnership. It is fatally erroneous to think that it is impossible for man to keep from sinning. We are a firm. Almighty power is the other partner. What God has joined together let no man put asunder. Jesus Christ is our example. The divine dwelling with the human! Humanity inspired! till it be said as of old, "here is God in the form of man," and I have never seen God in any better form. Where shall we find God if not in the human heart—in our own heart and in the hearts of those around us? I am sadly pained when I look into another's heart, especially in that of one who makes a profession of belief in Christ, and see there a great deal more of the human than the divine. The wrong partner is then at the head of the firm, and disaster will be the inevitable result. Rather let Almighty wisdom direct, everything will then move along harmoniously and successfully. Our part is simply obedience—an obedience not galling, but pleasing as born of faith. How obtained and maintained? *By doing what we know to be right.* By turning the course of thought and aspiration toward the higher and the better. By striving for that equilibrium of mind and poise of soul. Then will we know to live in Christ and Christ in us. Not in name only but in power, in experience, in sweet, soul-satisfying