

ISAIAH—CHAP. XIV. 7.

“THE WHOLE EARTH IS AT REST, AND IS QUIET: THEY
BREAK FORTH INTO SINGING.”

BRETHREN,

WE are met together, in obedience to public authority, to keep a day of solemn thanksgiving to Almighty God, “for His great goodness, in putting an end to the war in which we were engaged against France.” The text which I have selected for the ground of our meditations, is very appropriate. It describes the blessings of Peace, enjoyed in the principal kingdoms of the world, after the overthrow of the Babylonian Empire, and the restoration of the Jews into their own land from captivity, through the victorious arm of Cyrus. The children of Israel were held in captivity for seventy years in Babylon, as a punishment, inflicted by the Almighty, for their transgressions and idolatry. The king of Babylon was employed, as an instrument in the hand of God, to chastise them; but he, being cruel, wicked and tyrannical, an audacious blasphemer of the God of Heaven, was cast down from off his throne, as a rotten branch, when the purposes of Jehovah were accomplished concerning