

His kingdom did not and does not come with observation, not with whirling winds or loud sounding thunders, not with flames of fire or rending earthquakes and convulsions of nature, but with the gentleness of the evening zephyr, or like the leaven which the woman hid in three measures of meal until the whole was leavened. It comes not as the kingdoms and empires of the world have come, with the clash of arms, the marshal shout, the groans of the dying and the tears of those who are led into captivity, not with the pomp and circumstance of what is called glorious war. Our king is meek and lowly, and comes to reign within our hearts, declaring that the peacemakers are blessed, for they are the sons of God and heirs of heaven. Yet many men who bear the name of Christian delight in war. There is a charm connected with it that attracts the youthful mind. There is an excitement and romance which thrills every nerve. The calmest minds are not insensible to it. Deeds of daring are admired by all, ambition is stimulated by the love of conquest and the applause of men.

We do not say that war is an unmitigated evil, for that God who makes the wrath of man to praise him has often overruled it for good, and by it paved the way for civilization and religion. It is, however, demoniacal in character, and has been the most awful of God's scourges.

Men of all nations are of one blood, and should be brethren; but, alas! the tiger is not more cruel in its thirst for blood, or more savage in its rage than they have been. Can there be anything more awful than the battle field? "The harvest of war." After the smoke has cleared away and the excitement is over, when the ground is strewn with the manly, lifeless forms of those, who, but a few moments before, were full of health and strength, ambition and heroism. It is a scene in which demons revel, while a nation mourns for its dead, and the wailing cry of the widow and the orphan ascends to heaven from the ruins of the homestead and the trampled fields of grain. Groans of agony from man and beast witness the cruelty of war. But not only are households desolated, for kingdoms and empires are swept away. Science is retarded. Commerce is destroyed. Religion is set at defiance. Sin and misery follow in its path. There is nothing so demoralizing as war, for though it cultivates courage and prevents effeminacy, it arouses the worst passions of our nature. Man is brutalized. Respect for human life and property is diminished. The heart

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