

have been committed in hardness of heart, in wilful ignorance, and unbelief. How many in the full enjoyment of gospel light and privileges. And shall not God visit us for these things? "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish."

The rioters brought down destruction and punishment on their own heads, and the guilt was theirs; but the calamity was sent and permitted as a warning and chastisement from God to each of us and to our city; as such let us regard it. "From whence come wars and fightings among you, come they not hence even of your lusts, that war in your members?" (James iv. 1.) Yet war is one of God's scourges; and civil war a scourge more unnatural and terrible than foreign war. Though man was the immediate agent in these tumults, the chastisement came from God, as truly as does the pestilence which has spread its ravages abroad, and falls as yet, with a lighter rod on our own highly favoured, but sinful nation. "Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?"

In the midst of the judgment, we have experienced many special mercies and providences. We marvel alike at the extent of the calamity—and that it was not far greater. Lives were saved from the fury of the mob in the most critical circumstances. All the means of defence were withdrawn or rendered useless for a season, and restored just in time to prevent greater devastation. The counsels of the civil and military authorities were frustrated, but so were those of the rioters, and they seemed to be spell-bound to a single spot, instead of spreading confusion and ruin every where. A list of houses to be attacked was found on one of them, and the dock gates were to have been destroyed, by which the heavily laden vessels would have been stranded, and burst asunder: these and other premeditated evils were averted. The rough wind was mercifully stayed, and the raging flames made slow progress. Let us remember these things with gratitude.

It is a general and correct opinion that the nation at large has benefitted by our loss. The tumults at