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EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

WARS and rumours of wars. The air is filled with the sounds of preparation and the din of conflict. France has suffered what we should not be surprised to find is a more disastrous defeat at the hands of China than is at present admitted. England and Russia stand on the borders of Afghanistan watching one another, ready to close in deadly strife, with what far-sprcading complications it is, at present, impossible to forecast. In Egypt the progress from Suakim is very slow, and late engagements indicate that resistance from the Arabs will be even more stubborn than before, and that many more lives will be sacrificed before any permanent results can be reached, if indeed they ever can in such a country. And now we are excited to the highest pitch over our own troubles in the North-West. Blood has already been shed, and blood is loudly called for in revenge. Numbers of our young men from all parts of the country are being hurried to the front to crush the uprising; we earnestly hope that they will not be required to fire a shot. It is not ours to lay blame here or there, but it appears certain that there are causes for this outbreak—wrongs, exaggerated doubtless by base men, but wrongs still, and these should not be forgotten by us; justice must be enforced, but let it be tempered with righteousness. In view of all that is passing we are tempted to ask: "Will the time of peace never come when men shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and the spears into pruning-hooks, and shall not learn war any more?" Yes, it will come, perhaps it is nearer than we think, for the Lord hath promised, and "the Lord reigneth."

SINCE the above was written tidings of bloody work by the Indians have come over the wires, and it would appear as if the half-breed outbreak was developing into one of

those terrible Indian wars of which our brethren in the States have had such sad experience. The secular papers have been predicting a speedy collapse of the rebellion, and do not think that our young men will be required to fire a shot; we would fain hope so, but if these late reports are confirmed the hope is very faint. It is idle to speculate on what may be, the troops are not far from the scene of bloodshed; before these lines go forth a conflict may have taken place, or a full submission may have been made. While as citizens it is our duty to support the government in the suppression of this rebellion, as Christians it is our duty to carry the whole matter constantly to God—let there be special, earnest prayer. God sent an angel to deliver Peter from prison when "prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him."

ONE certain outcome of this outbreak in the North-West will be to seriously obstruct, in many places totally destroy, the Missionary Work of the Churches. We are not much affected by it directly, at any rate, for we have no agency in the disturbed district; but others, as the Presbyterians and Methodists, will suffer severely; already some workers have had to leave their field of labour, and it would seem as if the past expenditure of men and money would be lost. We sympathize with our brethren of other denominations in this trial of their faith, and pray that the great Head of the Church may bring light out of darkness, and that these very events, so full of apparent evil, may be found to tend to the furtherance of the gospel in that portion of our great Dominion.

A RESPECTED correspondent has drawn our attention to an extract which speaks of the children's part in our public services, and presses the matter on our attention. The extract says: "The children should be encour-