

thankful, because it has enabled me to see for myself the happy harmony which so suddenly sprung up between those engaged but a few short years ago in deadly conflict. It has been an inestimable blessing to me to hear the kind expression towards me in person from all parts of our country, from people of all nationalities, of all religions and of no religion, of Confederates and of National troops alike, of soldiers' organizations, of mechanical, scientific, religious and other societies, embracing almost every citizen in the land. They have brought joy to my heart if they have not effected a cure. So to you and your colleagues I acknowledge my indebtedness for having brought me through the valley of the shadow of death to witness these things.

*"Mt. McGregor, N. Y., July 2d, 1885."*

"U. S. GRANT.

To this may be added the last lines which he wrote on matters pertaining to the war:

"I feel that we are on the eve of a new era, when there is to be great harmony between the Federals and the Confederates. I cannot stay to be a living witness to the correctness of this prophecy, but I feel it within me that this is to be so. The universally kind feeling expressed for me at a time when it was supposed that each day would prove my last seems to me the beginning of the answer to 'Let us have peace.' The expressions of these kindly feelings were not restricted to a section of the country nor to a division of the people. They came from individual citizens of all nationalities; from all denominations, the Protestant, the Catholic and the Jew, and from the various societies of the land—scientific, educational, religious or otherwise.

"Politics did not enter into the matter at all. I am not egotistic enough to suppose all this significance should be given this matter because I was the object of it. But the war between the States was a very bloody and a very costly war. One side or the other had to yield principles they deemed dearer than life before it could be brought