

crust of bread, as not a few, but many have to do. We have been preserved from death, we have been preserved from the degradation of vice, we have been preserved from poverty, and indeed time would fail us to enlarge on many other things from which God in His mercy has preserved us. "Blessed be the Lord, even the God of our salvation.

3rd. There is another class of temporal benefits for which we should bless the Lord. I refer to those which are of a national or civil nature. Where is the nation that has received, and is receiving even now, greater tokens of Divine favor than we are? Peace and prosperity are reigning among us. Occasionally we hear the rumblings of war, but they are far off, and our sky keeps clear. That bleer-eyed dragon, Asiatic cholera, his jaws gory with the blood of countless victims, has come so near that we have almost felt the heat of his breath upon our cheeks, but God in His mercy has kept him back. In other countries there have been great social upheavals, owing to the hand to hand contest between capital and labor, but our great industries have gone steadily on, and comparative quiet has prevailed. Thank God for these things. Thank God, too, for our schools and colleges. Thank God for the newspaper and the instructive and entertaining volume. Thank God for our lecture halls and reading rooms. Thank God for our travelling facilities by rail and by steamer. Thank God for our telegraph and Post-office systems, by which heart may beat against heart though thousands of miles apart.

"For all that God in mercy sends ;
 For health and children, home and friends,
 For comfort in the time of need ,
 For every kindly word and deed,
 For happy thoughts and holy talk,
 For guidance in our daily walk,
 For everything give thanks !

"For beauty in this world of ours,
 For verdant grass and lovely flowers,
 For song of birds, for hum of bees,
 For the refreshing summer breeze,
 For hill and plain, for streams and wood,
 For the great ocean's mighty flood,
 For everything give thanks !

"For the sweet sleep which comes with night,
 For the returning morning's light,
 For the bright sun that shines on high,
 For the stars glittering in the sky,
 For these and everything we see,
 O God ! our hearts we lift to Thee,
 For everything give thanks !"

II.

Time was when one-half the world was entirely ignorant as to how the other half lived. These times have for ever gone by. Any schoolboy can give you a general idea of the moral and social condition of any nation. Books of travel are printed and widely circulated, in which the most minute description of the manners and customs of far-off lands is made known. More than that—the daily press brings us news of what happened not twenty-four hours since on the other side of the globe. Now, is it not a fact, that with all this knowledge before us we can truthfully say, that in comparison with other countries, we are morally and spiritually living in noontide glory, whilst they are in midnight darkness. What makes the difference? Christianity! "I am the light of the world." Thank God for His unspeakable gift. The same vice and misery and degradation which is so open and common in heathen lands, would be ours were it not for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is all very well for us to be thankful for the blessings and comforts of this life, but as Christians, our souls should to-day rise in gratitude to God for the gift of His own dear Son, through Whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of