

**National Gratitude.**

*Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Enter into His gates with thanksgivings and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him and bless His name.—Ps. c: 1, 4.*

The duty here enjoined is based on the strongest obligation. God has not dealt so with any other people. Hence we are under peculiar obligations to enter His sanctuary with thanksgiving and praise. The year in review has been one of signal and manifold blessings: harvests abundant—general health in city and country—freedom from threatening pestilence—peace in all our borders—the prevalence of law and order—the quiet and effective operation of God's ordained moral agencies and forces—and the presence of Christ and the Holy Spirit in all our sanctuaries, hearing prayer, blessing the Word, stimulating Christians, converting souls, and making the power of the Gospel as a mighty and effective agency to purify and conserve, felt and confessed everywhere among our fifty millions of souls.

**The Locomotive the Chariot of Our Christian Civilization.**

*The chariots \* \* \* shall seem like torches; they shall run like the lightnings.—Nahum ii: 4.*

These words are descriptive of the war chariots of old. They bring to mind that triumph of modern science—the locomotive. The locomotive stands for the subjugation of physical forces. Nowhere has this subjugation taken place with such signal rapidity and success as in America, and at no time here as during the year now closing.—The extension of the railroad system.—The opening of the Northern Pacific.—

The perfection of the electric light, etc. God's command that we subdue the earth is being obeyed. These victories reach in their consequences beyond the material world.

**The Idea of Brotherhood Triumphant.**

*All ye are brethren.—Matt. xxiii: 8.*

The leaven of equality is working mightily. Everything that stands in the way of the liberty of the individual is being resisted and overcome. The machinery of party politics has proved itself weaker than the sense of justice and of liberty. The American people will not brook anything that places obstacles in the way of the development of any individual. The black man, the Indian, the Chinaman, must have opportunities for growth equal with those enjoyed by the Anglo-Saxon. The anti-Chinese legislation is hostile to this spirit and must give way—is a reaction that cannot last. Every man a brother is an inspiration. America to-day is the logical result of the recognition of this idea.

**The Response of a Grateful Heart.**

*For this child I prayed, and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of Him; THEREFORE also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent unto the Lord. And he worshipped the Lord there.—1 Sam. i: 27-28.*

The truly thankful heart does not rejoice less in the *repayment* than in the receipt of blessings from God.

**True Gratitude a Characteristic of True Piety.**

*I will sing of mercy and judgment: Unto Thee, O Lord, will I sing.—Ps. ci: 1.*

The truly pious heart can sing of judgment as well as of mercy.

**Thanksgiving Sermons.**

The following is a list of the thanksgiving sermons, also facts and suggestions relative to the occasion, published in former volumes of the HOMILETIC MONTHLY, *Metropolitan Pulpit* and *Complete Preacher*:

1. Lessons from the Birds and Lilies, by Canon Farrar.—Matt. vi: 25. HOMILETIC MONTHLY, Vol. VII., No. 3.
2. Harvest Home, by Arthur Mursell.—Matt. xii: 1. HOMILETIC MONTHLY, Vol. VII., No. 3.
3. Our Country, by J. P. Newman, D.D.—Ps. cxlvii: 20. " " " IV., " 4.