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In viewing afar off the progress of the Kingdom in the movements of nations, and rejoicing thereat, let us not forget that the results thus obtained are but a small part of the total. The greening of forest and plain into life and beauty, is by the growth of each blade and leaf; and the coming of better days to earth is by the growing goodness and beauty of each heart and life.

The Quebec conference is one of the signs of the times, a forerunner, even amid the clang of forging cannon and building battle-ships, of the good time coming when the only triumphs shall be those of peace. Even should nothing come of it,—which is practically impossible,—the meeting marks an era, and in these as in all else good, failure will but stimulate effort, which shall go on until it bring in universal peace.

By self indulgence, character shrivels; by duty and discipline it grows. Therefore when duty is set before us and discipline laid upon us it is matter for thankfulness. Not that penance is helpful, for it often ministers to the most subtle kind of self indulgence, self righteous pride. But if duty is bravely faced because it is duty, and discipline borne as from a loving Father's hand, the character that emerges is purer and stronger on account of the way that it has come.

The long evenings are coming again with their possibilities of good and evil. By using them wisely and well they may be made a great source of profit and education as well as of enjoyment. By wasting them they become useless, yea hurtful in the formation of character. By abusing them they may help to lead downwards. To many in youth, their evenings have been ruin; to many salvation. "What effect shall the evenings of this autumn, and the coming winter, have in shaping my character."

The coming winter in our work for the Schemes of our Church should yield larger results than any heretofore, for there is more work to do. In Home, and French, and Augmentation Work, there is more to be done, more fields waiting, more doors opening.

But especially is this the case in Foreign Work. From all our Foreign fields the cry for help comes with increasing earnestness. The Maritime Synod has a larger work than ever before. Each Eastern giver should send at least 25 per cent. above last year for Foreign Missions, some more. The older fields are enlarging and there is, besides, the new Korean Mission. The Western section has had to close up some work in India, thus taking a backward step. Let this year mark advance, or some will perish without the Gospel who should receive it at our hands.