

tween nations to the uncertain and ruinous conflict of war, or, as some people would say, whose religion shows itself rather in words than in actions, to the decision of the God of battles, as though the beneficent Creator of the universe could take special interest in the slaughter of mighty armies and the plans of opposing generals. Those who reflect for an instant admit that justice and humanity make it imperative that international arbitration courts should deal with impartial hand between nations, as national courts now do between individuals. But, let some cloud appear on the political horizon, and the warmest theoretical defenders of arbitration forget their often expressed abhorrence of war and call for hostilities to defend the threatened honour of their country. Arbitration, it then turns out, may do for Turks and Russians, but is quite out of place between Englishmen and Chinese, or between Frenchmen and Prussians. Revenge for supposed insults is at once the cry. The feverish excitement of war, the hope of victory, a misguided feeling of national pride, throw justice to the winds, and with solemn appeals on both sides to that God who loves the humble peasant as much as the powerful duke, sees no difference between Jew and Gentile, German and Hindoo, knows nothing of inferior races and subject nations, and has no particular respect for dominant classes, war commences, and blood flows like water.

Or, again, look at the devastation distinctly traced to intemperance. See how futile are the exertions of conscientious high principled teetotallers to bring over to their ranks the thousands of amiable ministers and clergymen who deplore the evils of drunkenness, preach against excess, admit that alcoholic stimulants are unnecessary and a source of danger, and yet, being accustomed to their glass of wine, cripple their own efforts to check the horrors of a great vice, by refusing to abstain, though ready enough to urge others to do so.

The remedies for the evils of war are not simple; those for the repression of intemperance are fully as complex. But we may be certain that, as nations slowly reach a higher state