

power and glory over all the peoples of the earth and is equally near to them all. We will gratefully rejoice in and accept, so far as it is adapted to our needs, all the rich and manifold life which this sun calls forth amongst all nations ; but we will reject as unchristian arrogance the assertion by any individual people of the right or duty of forcing their nature and their Christianity upon others, as being the best for them. If, after this terrible war, in which the different Christian nations have fallen upon and slaughtered each other, the festival of the Reformation is to be solemnized in the right spirit, it must be by first asserting and safeguarding in the conditions of peace the equal right of all peoples to live in full and unmolested freedom, both in regard to nationality and to all forms of spiritual life. Only by acknowledging and aiming at this goal can the terrible hatred between the nations be subdued, and may perhaps one day vanish.