

and the principles of justice receive a shock which many years of peace are not able to repair.

In war, the moral sentiments of a community are perverted by that admiration of military exploits, to which every people is inclined, and which is studiously cherished by those who have an interest in prolonging the contest. Every eye is fixed on the conqueror, and every tongue busy with his deeds. The milder virtues of Christianity are eclipsed by the baleful lustre thrown round a ferocious courage. The disinterested, the benignant, the merciful, the forgiving, those whom Jesus has pronounced blest and honourable, must give place to the hero, whose character is stained not only with blood, but sometimes with the foulest vices; but all whose stains are washed away by victory.

Once more. War diffuses through a community unfriendly and malignant passions. Nations, exasperated by mutual injuries, burn for each others humiliation and ruin. They delight to hear that famine, pestilence, want, defeat, and the most dreadful scourges which providence sends on a guilty world, are desolating a hostile community. The slaughter of thousands of fellow-beings, instead of awaking pity, flushes them with delirious joy, illuminates the city, and dissolves the whole country in revelry and riot. Thus the heart of man is hardened. His worst passions are nourished. He renounces the bonds and sym-

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