

the mighty power of God, will bear to be reviewed when time with us shall be no longer. The day of reckoning, though unseen, may be near at hand. Work, then, while it is day.

Those who are impenitent ought to listen to the renewed calls to repentance, coming from the long suffering of God. Has He said of the barren fig-tree, let it alone this year also? Many changes will doubtless take place during the year on which we have entered. God grant that to some who read these lines it may prove the year of their conversion. That is a change that makes the year happy all through. But, should the means used to bring about a saving change in them fail, the axe may be laid to the root of the tree, and the command given, cut it down. The past and the present tell us that "here we have no continuing city." The quiver of death is full of shafts. There is an arrow there for each, for all. The time of its use is hid, but the mark is sure. Come, then, seek your God to-day, hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

The year 1861 closes, and 1862 opens, amid portentous omens. Signs of troublous times are around us. We listen to catch the sounds that cross the waters, fearing lest we hear the booming of cannon, and the confused noise of battle. Our sky wears the dark thunder-cloud of threatening war. May the God of nations avert the desolations of strife from our borders. Let the righteous cry to the Lord, that no sword may go through the land. That the blessings of peace and good neighbourhood may be enjoyed, let every Christian pray. And should the storm burst on our country, let confidence in God inspire the heart with courage; for God is the defence of His people and their deliverer.

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#### ANOTHER SEASON OF UNITED PRAYER.

It is a hopeful and encouraging sign of the times, that repeated calls are made to united prayer for the conversion of the world. This is more especially marked by the success which crowned the engagements of this character during the world's prayer meeting of 1860 and 1861. The British Evangelical Alliance has issued a circular to "Brethren beloved," calling for a repetition of the hallowed services of former years. Many, we doubt not, will embrace the opportunity, from Sabbath January 5th to Sabbath January 12th, 1862, of mingling with their brethren in Christ to ask those gracious influences from heaven which cause growth and prosperity. Necessity is laid on all God's people to cry mightily to the Lord for help. The aspect of the times says, "Come, my people, enter into thy chambers." That the spiritual life of believers may be promoted, and abundant blessings granted in answer to fervent, believing and importunate supplications, is our earnest desire.

Our readers will find the proposal, with suggested objects of prayer, in the October number of the *Canadian Independent*.

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#### DEATH OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT.

In common with the loyal subjects of our honoured and beloved Queen, we have been deeply moved by the startling intelligence of the death of the PRINCE CONSORT, which took place at Windsor Castle on the 14th December. The strongest and deepest sympathy of a nation, pre-eminently devoted