

no boaster. Surely it becomes us to be modest, humble, and thankful.

Something, however, we may have gained. We may have gained experience. We may know by experience the evils of war. We may know, if we will, "the things that belong to our peace." We may know the ways of war, "and the ways of peace," and the wide difference. We may learn to avoid the former, and follow the latter, "to refuse the evil, and choose the good;" and we have strong reasons "to seek peace and ensue it" for some time to come. But we must not expect too much from this advantage. "There is no remembrance of former things," as we are taught by Solomon; and his words are proved by experience. "The word of the Lord, the word of divine wisdom, endureth forever."

We have a peace, then, let us be thankful. If we can boast no more, let us be thankful. Let us acknowledge it as a great gift of divine mercy. "It is of the Lord's mercies, that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. Let us be still, and know that he is God."

"The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad. He maketh peace in our borders, and filleth us with the finest of the wheat. We hear no more the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. Violence is no more heard in our land; wasting nor destruction within our borders. Joy and gladness are found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody." Now the captives are returning from their gloomy prisons to gladden the hearts of their mourning families. Now the soldiers are returning from the field of battle to the relations of civil life. They have proved their bravery, and won the applause of their country; may they preserve by their virtue the praise, which they have acquired by their valour. Now the arts, and toils, and perils of war are changed for the arts, and works, and fruits of peace. The artists are returning to their occupations, from which they had