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Watchman, what of the night? The morning cometh, from the night of sin and suffering and sorrow and wrong, and if the vision of the Psalmist seer is a picture of millennial dawn, then seldom in human history has that day brightened so rapidly as during the past three or four months. The summer has brought civil and religious freedom to more of the world's down-trodden millions, ten times over, than were declared free by Lincoln's pen nigh two score years ago.

The victory of the United States over Spain has opened the door of civil and religious freedom to a score of millions in the West Indian and Philippine Islands. The more recent victory of the British far up the Nile means freedom to unknown millions in the Dark Continent. In 1834 Britain freed the slave, throughout her own Empire, the first nation to take that step. In 1898 she has given the final blow to the slave trade of the world. This latter fact, of itself, marks one of the great epochs of human history in the triumph of righteousness.

Other tokens there are, forerunners of a better day, in China, Candia, Canada.

Though the hand of God may not be so apparent in the national issues of to-day as it was in the history of Israel, the principles of His moral Government are ever the same. Blessed is the nation whose leaders recognize

this truth, and perhaps one of the grandest scenes amid the horrors of the war, more striking even than the President's proclamation calling for a national thanksgiving, was that of the officers and men of one of the American battleships at Santiago, at the request of their venerable and beloved commander, standing for a time with bared, bowed, head, in the first flush of victory, in silent acknowledgement of God as the Giver of their triumph.

After the 29th, what? Active, earnest work, no matter what the day may bring forth. If in the vote of the 29th, a majority say they do not wish to prohibit the traffic in strong drink, then the immediate duty will be to make the best of the laws we have and to seek to get better ones. It is a time for special work, because people are interested as never before. The whole country is thinking and talking about the traffic and when men are thinking is the time that work for truth and right always yields best results.

But if the 29th give victory, then there must be diligence in following up that victory and making it yield best results, both in the way of legislation and in the leavening of public opinion to make that legislation as effective as possible. People are thinking about the matter and blows tell best with iron hot.