

within the compass of a twelvemonth. This hath God done, who overruleth according to his will the action of nations, and maketh even the wrath of man to praise Him, by bringing good out of evil. Among our neighbours, so lately arrayed against each other in deadly strife, we see a happy unity returning; a social reconstruction going on, with the fatal element eliminated which was the cause of all their woe. It has now been seen and felt throughout both sections of the great republic, in a manner never before realized, what the arbitration of questions by the sword meaneth; and their bitter experience is a pledge that the appeal to that mode of deciding quarrels will be infrequent.

We see also harmony returning between the people of that re-united nation and their and our parent State beyond the seas, a harmony that had been jarred by mistaken words and deeds on both sides, chiefly by the unfair attribution to the whole of what was the animus of only a part in each community.

At a great international festival, in which by invitation I was lately privileged to take a part, in a populous and influential city of the United States, on our frontier, on the occasion of the visit there of a number of distinguished Englishmen, I hailed with deep thankfulness the manifest return of the old, kindly, and natural good-feeling. "Were I a statesman" exclaimed one venerable orator on that festive occasion, "I would say to Great Britain, I adjure you by our common blood, by our common language, by the old memories of our common glory, give us your friendship, not a cold, calculating, commercial friendship, not a romantic friendship, but a practical, genuine friendship, such as should exist between two wise and experienced nations, imbued with the spirit of the common law, and sensible that God has imposed on them the common duty of advancing the progress of humanity, and defending the liberties of mankind." Now there is not a doubt but that this is exactly what the bulk of the real English people desire to do.

Do we not well, on a day like the present, while passing under review our various reasons for thankfulness,

to take notice of such utterances as these, and to regard them as cheerful auguries of that perpetuity of amity which it especially befits us to desire between nations so bound together by interest and nature?

Again: in respect to our prospects as a people, how marvellously have the thick clouds which a few months since hung so heavily over our future, been lifted off! Instead of hosts of armed men ready, with an irritation just or unjust, to rush at many a point across our frontier, there to be met by the flower of our country suddenly trained and hastily despatched to brave the threatened on-set, instead of a second fratricidal strife, thus to be initiated, with its hateful accompaniments of mutual destruction and devastation—what have we seen, what do we see? Only embassies passing and repassing over the dividing line, from city to city, on errands of peace and good will; relations of hospitality established between city and city, reminding the student of history of those which existed between kindred Greek States of old; an unparalleled series of visits, reciprocally made by delegations of thoughtful and provident men desirous of increased facility of intercourse, increased interchange of commodities.

Instead of conquest by force, or absorption and extinction by circumstances, we behold ourselves suddenly become part and parcel of a new-born nationality, consolidated, in company with our brethren hitherto disunitedly settled over the vast breadth of the British Northland of this continent, from Vancouvers to the Gulf, into a people; encouraged to have faith in ourselves, to respect ourselves, to cultivate the individuality which our circumstances have already led us to develop. By agencies in which we have had little part, we see ourselves this day advanced onwards a stage in our historic career; carried forward, let us believe, by the providence of God, to a position, the novel duties of which it will be well speedily to realize and fit ourselves to discharge.

Thanksgiving days, like the present in the land of our fathers, would be ushered in by joyous peals from the gray towers of Cathedrals and