

be gratified by playing at the awful game of war. Instead of the fires of industry, commerce and social life, we have

Commanding fires of death to light
The darkness of the scenery.

The present war has brought out much of the brute and the savage that still remains in man at his worst, when self-control is thrown aside, and free play is given to the degrading passions.

Cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war. Yes, cry havoc! The wounded are shot and mutilated. Nurses are outraged, maimed and murdered. Doctors are treated as combatants. Ancient seats of learning and religion are destroyed. Women and children are driven from their homes, and lined up to make targets for gunmen. Again in the words of Shakespeare:

Each new morn,
New widows howl, new orphans cry, new sorrows
Strike heaven on the face, till it resounds
As if it felt with these, and yelled out
In like syllables of dolor.

There is a terrible lesson in all this. There is the mania for power—paranoia grandiosa. A condition in ordinary life that would be ground for commitment to a place of safety on the testimony of two medical men. But by the destiny of things this sort of mania for power is enabled to plunge a whole continent into war and call forth some 15,000,000 of armed men, equipped with the best known devices of destruction. Longfellow saw the evils of war and sang in fine strains:

Were half the power that fills the world with terror,
Were half the wealth bestowed on comps and courts,
Given to raise the human mind from error,
There were no need for arsenals and forts.

But truth, right, liberty, will prevail, and peace will return. For the future let us hope with Milton that:

Peace hath her victories not less renowned than war.

May the time be near at hand when nations shall say with Thomson:

O Peace! thou source and soul of social life;
Beneath whose calm inspiring influence
Science his views enlarges, art refines,
And swelling commerce opens all her ports;
Blessed be the man divine who gives us thee!

When such sentiments hold sway and replace the law of force the world will see the enthronement of Lincoln's ideal, "that government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth."