

name and description march forth in defiance of God and man. Alas ! how have we degenerated from the purity of our fathers ! Will not a righteous God *visit for these things, and will not his soul be avenged on such a nation as this ?* Yea, judgment has already begun. The sword is commissioned to devour. The horrid sound of war resounds in these long peaceful shores. God is angry, and is visiting us with the most terrible of his judgments. Yes, of all the judgments of Heaven, war is the most terrible. The confusion and misery it occasions, in every grade and condition of society, no language can express. No calamity is attended and followed by such ruinous and awful effects. It imposes excessive burdens upon innocent people ; and the tendency it has to demoralize society exceeds our conception. It turns men into ferocious beasts, that seek only to destroy each other, and are most in their element amid rapine and carnage. It extinguishes the last spark of kindness and mercy from the human breast, and prepares men for every act of cruelty and oppression. It cuts off thousands in a day ; and often hurries ten thousand souls, in all their unpardoned guilt, to the bar of God and the region of endless despair. It turns that into an occasion of joy and triumph, which ought rather to cover us with shame, and prostrate us in the dust of repentance and humiliation. O the scourge of war ! It is Jehovah's strange work. All the nations which have been swept from the earth, those only excepted that perished in the waters of the deluge and the flames of Sodom, were destroyed by the sword. War is an enemy of every good thing. Other judgments may convince and reform a peo-

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