

THE REMOVING OF MOUNTAINS

the day, the forts of Liège fall and ships are sunk, whether they stand for the right or for the wrong.

We recognize this, but we are so weak in the things of the spirit that, not only have we been unable to conquer our enemies and thus keep peace by spiritual power, but the greater number among us do not even desire more of such power, do not even admire the evidence of it when they see it. We may obtain some cessation of war by war, but without a great increase of spiritual power we can never have international peace.

We believe that our Lord suffered, and His nation was scattered abroad, because He could not persuade His people to enter into His life of spiritual power, and that, nevertheless, He looked forward to the development of this life of spiritual power in His Church, teaching us to pray that God's will should be done on earth. Thus it cannot be God who withholds from us spiritual power, our lack must be due to our own misunderstanding or culpability, either individual or corporate. Let us seek to find from the Master's teaching and example what is the cause of our lack and what its remedy.

In that saying concerning the twelve legions of angels that were at His bidding (Matt. xxvi. 53), we have, perhaps, an indication of all that Jesus, or His spiritual interpreters, did not regard as a legitimate or spiritual way of conquering men; for that saying brings vividly to mind those wonderful stories of the Old Testament in which God's people and God's prophets are said to have been miraculously delivered from overwhelming enemies by a power that deluded or damaged those enemies, accomplishing sometimes their cruel destruction. Such is the story of the triumphant choir of Jehoshaphat (2 Chron. xx); of the deliverance of Samaria from the investing Syrians (2 Kings vii); of the deliverance of Hezekiah and of Jerusalem from the armies of Sennacherib (2 Chron. xxxii); and—most beautiful and merciful of all, and apparently appropriate to the case of our Lord—the deliverance of Elisha him-