

ready we were to bear our part in vindicating the cause of our mother land—the cause of justice and of righteousness, as well as of true humanity—we could not forget that, in any circumstances, war is a tremendous evil, and brings with it calamities of the most serious nature. When, in the providence of God, who can turn the hearts of men even as the rivers of water, this dark war cloud was dispelled, we believe that, in every right constituted mind, feelings of sincere joy and gratitude were experienced. We thank God for the result. How different might our circumstances have been from what they are to-day, had not a peaceable solution of the difficulty been found. May God grant that no disturbance of our present peaceful relations may take place; and that we may continue to lead quiet and peaceable lives, with nothing to make us afraid.

It is to be feared that we do not sufficiently appreciate the blessings of peace and security. It is, as in other cases, the loss of these blessings which enables us to feel their real value. This very day thousands in the neighboring nation are painfully feeling the sad effects of war. The peaceful avocations of industry are interrupted. Fertile fields have been trampled down by advancing armies. Happy homes have been laid in ruins. Sacred edifices have been turned into barracks or storehouses. Sadder effects still have been experienced. Many a widowed mother has seen her sons, to whom she looked as the stay of her declining years, going forth to the field, whence they never returned. Many a tender child has been left an orphan. Thousands have fallen on the bloody field; thousands have sunk under the wasting influences of disease and exposure; while thousands more are still the pale and haggard inmates of hospitals, maimed for life. These are some of the sad effects of war. When we contrast with such a condition of things the peace and security in which we are happily permitted to dwell, it becomes us to cherish feelings of deepest gratitude to Him, who has made peace in our borders, and turned from us the scourge of war.

God's goodness has been conspicuously displayed, too, in the comparative plenty which He has permitted us to enjoy. He hath not only made "peace in our borders," he hath also "filled us with the finest of the wheat." We all remember how faint were the hopes of the husbandman, when, in consequence of an unusual continuance of drought, the earth had become dry and parched. But God sent seasonable relief. The clouds at His bidding dropped down refreshing showers on the earth, so that, in most parts of the land, the crops were scarcely less abundant than usual. It is true that in some places the harvest has been less satisfactory than might have been desired. But, all things considered, we have reason to thank God for abundance both for man and beast.

Such abundance, as God hath given us, is not universal. In the parent country there are thousands who have not bread to eat, nor labor to occupy their hands. So close are the bonds which now unite the various branches of the human family, that when one nation suffers others suffer with it. While the war in the neighboring nation has spread desolation and confusion extensively on this continent, the effects are felt on the other side of the Atlantic. The supply of the raw material being arrested, the busy wheels of industry