

Dr. Martineau, who has been called the great master of ethics, is far from holding that true Christianity cannot tolerate the necessity of war under certain conditions in the affairs of nations. Writing on the subject of the "Ethics of Christendom" Dr. Martineau has said: "The reverence for human life is carried to an immoral idolatry when it is held more sacred than justice and right, and when the spectacle of blood becomes more horrible than the sight of desolating tyrannies and triumphant hypocries." He recognises that a reign of law and order cannot exist in this present world without a basis of force to uphold it. "A religion," he teaches, "which does not include the whole moral law; a moral law which does not embrace all the problems of a commonwealth; a commonwealth which regards the life of man more than the equities of God, appear to be unfaithful to their functions, and unworthy interpreters of the divine scheme of the world." The only Peace that can, or that ought to last, is a Peace wedded to perfect righteousness. Then might the Earth realise the beautiful image of the psalmist, "Mercy and Truth are met together; Righteousness and Peace have kissed each other."

We cannot doubt that a war which calls for substantial self-sacrifice from a community, which stimulates physical and mental energy, and steels men to endure personal hardship, perils by sea and land, and even death itself with calm fortitude, acts as a powerful and salutary moral tonic to a nation. If it sinks under the trial from feebleness of purpose, a morbid horror of physical pain, or a groveling love of money making, that nation has stamped itself craven, and is doomed to ultimate extinction. If there are horrors of War, are there not also horrors of Peace?—mean, crawling horrors of treachery, lechery, cheating and lies; sleek and smug villains rolling in carriages paid for with the blood of tears, and unspeakable agonies and degradations of the poor; a sycophantic and lick-spittle generation, amongst which a big bank balance is accepted as the most convincing proof of private and public worth,

and the only swindler who is condemned is the one whose ill-gotten gains slip through his fingers, and who thus fails to secure power and pelf by his lying and fraud; sickening social hypocries and conventional shams, by means of which "Society" contrives to shield her votaries, while behind her shameless skirts they revel in sensual iniquities, or fritter away God-given lives in fatuous inanities—human flies that "sting and sing, and weave their potty cells and die."

When we reflect on these accompaniments of Peace without righteousness, we can sympathise with the poet's outburst when he cries:

"I wake to the higher aims  
Of a land that has lost for a little her lust of gold,  
And love of a peace that was full of wrongs and  
shames,  
Horrible, hateful, monstrous, not to be told;  
And hail once more to the banner of battle unrolled!  
Though many a light shall darken, and many shall  
weep  
For those that are crushed in the clash of jarring  
claims.  
Yet God's just wrath shall be wreaked on a giant  
liar,  
And many a darkness into the light shall leap,  
And shine in the sudden making of splendid names,  
And noble thought be freer under the sun,  
And the heart of a people beat with one desire."

Let us then gird up our loins and fight the good fight of faith in truth and justice until we make freedom to flourish and right to prevail mightily upon the earth, in spite of slander, envy, and the venomous hate of those with whom we can have no part, whose tyrannies and gross outrages upon human justice cry aloud to Heaven for expiation. No "red fool-fury of the Seine" is in our blood, but the calm indomitable will to do the world's work that God has placed in our hands, and woe be to them that impede Britannia's path as she marches to the fulfilment of her destiny! We shall not be turned from our purpose by the gibes and threats of enemies who hate to witness the steady growth of the Power which one day will be strong enough to enforce the mighty *Pax Britannicum* under whose shield the nations will learn to reverence and rejoice in the freedom born of the union of law and order