

THE DAY-STAR.

*"Forerunner of the sun, it marks the pilgrim's way;
"I'll gaze upon it while I run and watch the rising day."*

"Depart from evil, and do good: seek peace and pursue it."

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Pray for us, and write often.

A. F. Foster. Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

HEAR ALL YE PEOPLE!

I will say, as one of the deepest convictions of my soul, that war, with its bleeding horrors, will never cease until the Church testifies against it by doctrine and practice. T. Coan.

AN INTERESTING EXPERIENCE.

A friend of ours writes: "You ask how I came to be interested in the Peace society.

There is nothing remarkable in the fact of my being a member, or of special interest in my experience leading me in that direction.

Some years ago, about 15 I judge, a Mr. Ward came to this place, and preached in the M. E. church of which I am a member: representing the American Peace Society. It appeared to me so reasonable, so in harmony with the gospel, that I gave both him and his doctrine my cordial sympathy. As I recollect, he did not make much of an impression on the members of the church generally, and particularly the Pastor, who was quite bellicose, and declared he was for war; of course not in the sense of making quarrels, but he seemed to think it quite necessary, and entirely in accord with the New Testament. While I cannot say that war is never justifiable, [for instance our late war,] I did not sympathize with the spirit our pastor manifested, and I do believe that the whole spirit of Christ's teachings is opposed to that of war and blood shed. It is awful, the carnage of war, the very thought of it shocks every feeling of humanity, and principle of Christi-

anity. We are to overcome by *faith* in the blood of the lamb. Our weapons are not carnal but spiritual. When Christians take the sword to kill they become like the world, partake of its spirit, and forsake the Lord Jesus and His cause. He said, "My kingdom is not of this world," in fact the millenium which Christianity is to usher in, is to be known by its sweet influence of peace. "The Lion and the lamb shall lie down together." I think the time as fast approaching when the principles of peace will prevail and "nations shall learn war no more," but it will only come when the gospel shall have full sway in the hearts of men.

I notice you are also warring against the tobacco habit. It seems strange that it is necessary to urge christians to abstain from this devilish vice. I must give you a little of my experience in connection with it. I was in the habit but quit it on conscientious grounds. I could not be a true christian and use it, but after quitting its use, being in trade, I sold it.

I was quite zealous in my opposition to the liquor traffic and it occurred to me that in selling tobacco I was somewhat akin to the liquor vendor. A good many of my tobacco customers were christians, so I excused myself, and continued the business of selling, finally an old toper told me on one occasion when I was denouncing the liquor saloon, that I was no better, I sold tobacco. I then resolved to give up the sale, and did so; having a good trade (I was in the general dry goods and grocery business) I expected to be greatly annoyed by customers calling for tobacco. I now state a remarkable fact, after giving up the sale, I actually had no calls for it; I do not think more than once in a year did I have a call for it.

This was marvelous to me as I had a large trade in the article, and to be so utterly divorced from all bother and petty annoyance by customers calling for it with other goods seemed nothing else than the hand of the Lord.

English Missionaries claim, that the Opium traffic "bars the hearts of a third of the human race against the gospel."