

to make the day a blessed one for them—do unto them as you would have them do unto you. Be thankful that you are alive, that you have good health, that you have real friends, that you suffer not for the necessities of life, that you live in a land of great plenty, that your government is one of free speech, that you are as free as it is possible to be under any government of earth. Are these not gifts to you—real Christmas gifts—bestowed upon you by the hand of Divine Providence? And should you not be thankful? What mortal can receive more or better gifts?

Many people receive happiness by a comparison of their lot with that of others. Let them consider conditions as they are today, and are likely to be on Christmas Day in Europe. Consider the soldier who is in the trenches, on the firing line; what of his Christmas? Perhaps he, too, for all his lot is awful, is thankful—that he is alive, and for the hope that he may survive the awful carnage. Think of the women of that war-ridden country! What can Christmas be to them? And yet may they not rejoice that they have not yet received the fatal message telling of the death of some loved one at the front—father, brother, husband, or lover? Think of the children of that devastated section and of their Christmas.

Let us not draw too dark a picture, for we do not wish to bear a message of sorrow to our readers rather than good cheer. We wish to point out, by comparison, what Christmas is to bring and to mean this year. We desire also to make it a time of genuine thankfulness for all of the manifold blessings of the season which are to be ours, as well as one of rejoicing.

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## THE IROQUOIS AND THE STRUGGLE FOR AMERICA

"Even a dull imagination must be stirred as it dwells upon the influence which the events attending the discovery were to have, upon the issue of the great struggle between France and Great Britain for the control of the continent; the struggle between the two white races for the opportunity to colonize and expand, and between the two systems of law and civil policy, for the direction and development of civilization among the millions who were to people the vast region extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Rio Grande to the frozen limits of the north. . . .

"In all this interesting and romantic story may be seen two great proximate causes of the French failure and the English success; two reasons why from Quebec to the Pacific we speak English, follow the