

'And the sword shall devour, and it shall become satiate and made drunk with their blood.'"

"I suppose," said Amy, "this war is only fulfilling one of the prophecies."

"I think so, my dear; the book of Isaiah is full of prophecies concerning this dreadful war."

Amy took leave of Mrs. Norwood with a lighter heart than she had had for a long time. Her long talk with Mrs. Norwood seemed to do her good. Tom's mother felt very much happier, now that she was assured of his safety. She eagerly looked for the letter from him, which she knew would come very soon. She did not have long to wait, for in a few days it arrived, filled with words of love for herself and little Mamie, also a glowing account of the battle, and how the men under him fought for the principles of human liberty, omitting the heroic part taken by himself, other than in a general way, and closing by saying: "Half of the brave men in my company were either killed or wounded. I received only a slight wound in my left arm, and will be all right in a few days. While I should like to see you and little Mamie, I can not leave my command, while in front of the enemy, to gratify that desire. Kiss Mamie for brother, and tell her that he hopes to see her before long."

As Mrs. Norwood finished reading the letter, Amy came in. "I was on my way home from Mrs. Gray's," said she, "and called in to see how you and Mamie are feeling to-day."

"We are quite well, thanks," said Mrs. Norwood. "Mamie is over her cold, and I am feeling much better. How are you getting on with the preparations for the fair?"

"Oh, splendidly! I am assured of its entire success. Would you believe it? Papa is enthusiastic about it and is giving considerable of his time to help us along."

Mamie, who had gone from the room a few moments before Amy's arrival, returned, and seeing Amy, went up to her and said—

"We dot a letter from brover to-day, and him ain't tilled at all."

"Yes," said Mrs. Norwood, "I received a letter from Thomas this morning, and if you care to hear it I will read it to you."

"Oh, certainly! I should like very much to hear it."

As Mrs. Norwood finished reading, Amy said: "I think it real mean in them for not letting him come home, now that he is wounded."

"Thomas could, I dare say, come home if he wished; but he has patriotic notions about the duties of a soldier; he thinks a soldier's place is in the field with his command, and not in the rear or at home

wasting his time. Besides, he has but recently been promoted to a captain and does not want to leave his company."

"Oh, dear!" sighed Amy, "this war is dreadful! Dreadful!"

"Yes," replied Mrs. Norwood, "war is a terrible thing; but we must submit with as much patience as we can, and hope for its speedy termination."

Amy soon took her leave and returned home, where she expected to meet some young ladies to perfect arrangements for the coming fair, to be held in the town hall, for the purpose of raising funds for the Christian and Sanitary Commissions, twin organizations for the relief of sick and wounded soldiers in hospitals and in the field. These institutions were conducted principally by the loyal women of the north. That they performed noble work, and by their timely aid saved the lives of thousands of soldiers, is not necessary to say, for there are living, to-day, many who can testify to the good deeds of these noble, self-sacrificing women, who not only gave their time and means, but in many instances their lives, in the interest of the Union cause. The world very imperfectly knows the part acted by the loyal women of America in the great war for the preservation of our Union. But the suffering soldiers, who lay in the hospitals, sick with burning fever or a terrible wound, lingering between life and death—they can testify to the Samaritan deeds of these ministering angels, who were ever found beside the little, white cot, on which lay the wasted form of a soldier, always ready to attend his every want. Nor were their operations confined to the sick and disabled, but extended to the soldier in the field, whose heart was made glad by the receipt of warm underclothing and many little delicacies and knick-knacks. Many prayers ascended in behalf of these noble women of the North, who were ever striving to ameliorate the sufferings of the soldiers.

The fair, as was expected, proved a grand success. A handsome sum of money was realized, which was forwarded to the Sanitary and Christian Commissions. Colonel Harrington took an active part in getting up and conducting the fair, thereby insuring its success. In fact, he and his daughter were the moving spirits. Nothing was done without first consulting one or the other of them. The colonel's spirits were exuberant. He could be seen in all parts of the hall, superintending the various booths, and allowing nothing to mar the harmony of the assembly. Mrs. Harrington, too, rendered valuable assistance toward the success of the fair. People came from far and near to contribute their mite to the good cause, and then went away well satisfied with what they had done.