

The God of War

By

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To
the memory of
A Brother Beloved
Minister of the Gospel
RYLAND READ TAYLOR
1858-1887

Foreword

THE general theme which I have undertaken to present in the following pages is not new. For centuries it has engaged the minds of earnest men, and has deeply stirred their hearts. Naturally it has evoked divers and dissonant views, and not infrequently it has aroused deep feeling. The war god appeals to human passions.

The views herein set forth are the result of studies that have extended intermittently through thirty years, and of work similarly through four. They are deliberate, kindly, mature, and neither inflexible nor final. As the tide of recent passion recedes, and men come to realize the mischief that has been done, they may be willing to consider any honest effort to find a better way.

I had it in mind to give a list of authors to whom I am indebted, and of their works on which I have drawn, but on looking over the list I find that it contains three hundred names and more, the number of books being larger; and so I shall save labour and space by leaving them out. Several have

been quoted directly, both because it serves my purpose better to have them speak in their own way and because their honoured names give weight to the truths they have uttered. Others have been duly credited by name with sentiments which I have chosen to express in my own words, but always with strict loyalty to the import of what they said.

Such as it is, this little volume is sent forth with the devout desire that it may confirm in the faith of the gospel the hearts of all who name the name of Christ, and that through their renewed fidelity to the truth it may hasten the day when the demon of hatred and deadly strife shall be driven from the whole world and men of all nations and tongues shall be brought into brotherhood and into peaceful and happy harmony with the will of God, as it is set forth in Jesus Christ.

J. J. T.

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