

years. In 1837 and 1838, we paid twenty-six millions annually for the same purpose. The expenses of the English government, from the same cause, from 1816 to 1837, a period of twenty-one years of peace, was two thousand and ninety-one millions of dollars, or one hundred millions per year — sufficient to educate her entire population for nearly seven years. If we suppose the expenses of the United States and the other governments of Europe to be only half as great as those of Great Britain for war purposes during peace, we should still have the startling aggregate of five hundred millions annually — a sum sufficient for the education of all Europe and the United States for more than three years, and of all the world for more than one year. If the whole world expend as much in proportion to their numbers for war purposes during peace, it would form the frightful sum of one thousand six hundred millions of dollars — sufficient to educate all its population three and a half years. Truly this is a peace establishment with a vengeance.

These statements seem more like the dreams of disordered fancy than like sober fact. But they are most painfully true; nay, they fall far short of the reality. But, instead of looking on the dark side of the picture, as I expected to do when I began these statistics, they have thrown a bright beam of promise upon the future condition of the world. They show us how immense are the pecuniary capabilities of the human family. They show us what an incalculable amount of funds the world will have at its disposal, for the promotion of science, literature, and religion, when they shall be brought to act according to the principles of reason and religion; for all that now goes into the war channel will then be consecrated to the service of knowledge and benevolence. In spite of all the oppressions and disadvantages under which the