

May renown swell the names of the chieftains that led,  
And may gratitude saint all the heroes who bled,  
May their sons prove that virtue sleeps not in the tomb,  
May their daughters be spotless as Eden's first bloom;  
While our vows we renew on this day ever blest,  
Still to keep independent the sons of the West.

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## “THOU SHALT NOT KILL.”

(Written for a Peace Meeting.)

By CAPTAIN OTHNIEL JOHNSON.

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Shall man presume, (a mortal worm,)  
His Godlike image to deform,  
By vilely shedding human blood;  
And clad in terror lift his arm,  
His kindred fellow-clay to harm,  
Against the holy law of God?

Shall Nations, blest with righteous laws,  
With impudence, espouse the cause  
Of war, and spend their cash and breath,  
The vilest mortals to employ,  
Their fellow creatures to destroy,  
And quench their lamps of life in death?

If savages delight to kill  
Their fellow creatures, as they will,  
And feast themselves with human gore,  
Does this empower the men of light,  
And give them liberty to fight,  
And go to war because they've power?

O, man consider well my theme,  
Thy power is from the source Supreme—  
Activity, strength, reason, will,  
Are lent to thee to be employed  
In honor of your Maker, God,  
Who gave command, “Thou shalt not kill.”

'Tis feared there are those who profess  
To give to God devotedness,  
Yet do not heed the mandate just.  
Regardless of the great command,  
In wrath they lift the vengeful hand,  
And strive to have their foes all crushed.