

**THE CONQUEST OF
TROUBLE; AND,
THE PEACE OF GOD**

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The Conquest of Trouble; And, The Peace of God by C. H. Brent

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Musings

BY

THE RIGHT REV. C. H. BRENT, D.D.

BISHOP OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Author of "With God in Prayer"
"The Inspiration of Responsibility"
—
Etc.

*Before I was troubled I went wrong; but now have I kept thy
word. Ps. cxix, 67*

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To
Elizabeth Mills Reid
A sympathetic friend of the troubled
My friend

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Preface

These pages are illustrative of a use of Holy Scripture which is fruitful of much help. A single topic, as considered by a group of writers, or in the New Testament, is tracked and made to yield up to the devout mind something of its spiritual content. In the Prayer Book version of the Psalter (which follows the Vulgate where it varies from the Hebrew) I have taken the word "trouble," wherever it occurs, and sought to discover how God has taught men to deal with it. The Latin word is usually "tribulatio" and the Greek "*θλίψις*." In the King James version and the Revised Version of the Bible, chapters and verses are sometimes dif-

Preface

ferently numbered from the version of the Psalter from which my quotations are taken. Nor is the word rendered "trouble" here always so translated there. But the substance is the same and a comparison between the different versions is serviceable.

Any close consideration of trouble may easily run into self-pitying morbidness. Most of us begin at any rate to meet our experiences of trouble with grieved surprise or resentment. We assume that, whatever the lot of others, we have a registered title to happiness. Such an assumption is due to a false conception of life. We count ourselves the favorites of God who is going to be indulgent to us and, if need be for our comfort, to ignore the very laws of His own