

Europe with terror, and her pitiless Armada was broken by invisible hosts. The cruel empire of the Turks in Europe was shattered by the love of liberty. The plague that held whole nations in its grip was swept away by feeble men with poor and clumsy tools. With all the teeth and claws against him, man beat the tiger and the bear. The reformers have always beaten kings. A boatful of exiles believing in God beat the German kings of England and founded the United States. Where is John Hampden, where is John Bunyan now—and where are the Stuarts? We threw down Napoleon, though it took us twenty years; William Lloyd Garrison threw down slavery, though it took him sixty years; and the revolt of man against slavery has beaten every empire that ever built up power with it. Nothing has ever beaten Liberty.

In the war between the visible and invisible powers the invisible always win. The history of humanity, it has been said, is a battle between ideas and interests, and the interests always win for a moment, but in the long run the ideas. The universe is moral, and every child justifies it, says Emerson; and we remember how Victor Hugo adds so beautifully, *Every child trusts it*. We shall overcome the powers of evil when we trust in the powers of good; we shall be strong to victory when, clean and true and purified, we lay our cause and purposes bound by gold chains around the Throne of God. Some trust in chariots, some trust in horses, but as for those who win immortal victories, their trust is in the Living God.

He who has brought us out of terrible darkness into noonday light, who sways the heavens and guides the world and loves a little child, will not leave us now. Storm and thunder, earthquake and volcano, they will precede the calm. It is Nature's way of balancing her forces, and the great calm will come to us again. We