

full of so much consequence to the entire human family.

At the same time, we are warned by events which now and then take place that the Millennium has not begun, and that men's selfishness and passions and prejudices still are, and probably for long will continue to be, serious obstacles in the way of harmony and prosperity. Actual warfare between nations may be suspended for a time, but everyone can see that mutual jealousies and suspicions are keeping up a state of irritation, which some casual occurrence may at any moment develope into open strife. Whatever may, by God's grace, be the case with individuals, it is evident that nations have not thoroughly learned the Divine lesson of love and obedience to the golden rule "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them", and probably it is fear of one another, rather than a higher motive, which restrains them from violence. But we see the tendency of selfishness and covetousness in the internal unrest which seems to pervade all countries, in the conflicts more or less open, between authority and submission, between capital and labour, between property and poverty. For this condition of things no one is altogether blameless, for all have forgotten in a great degree the precepts and the example of our Lord and Master. He, whose Kingdom is not of this world, would have His professed followers unworldly and unselfish, not seeking every man, his own welfare, but loving one another with a pure heart fervently. Leaving the world to return to Heaven He did not leave Himself without a witness, but established His Church to be the abiding witness to His Divinity, presenting to the eyes and hearts of men a continual miracle, which should be more convincing than any of His own wonderful works. But if, as has been said, modern Christianity has come to be nothing better than a civilized heathenism, or if it approaches this character, the Church has, to that extent, failed in her office as the witness to Christ. Looking back over the pages of history, can we not see melancholy evidences of this failure, and can we not see in the ambition, the jealousies, the rivalries of Christianity the reason for its feeble hold upon the hearts and lives of men? Christianity in its true conception is Socialism sanctified by the self sacrifice of Christ, purified by the power of the Holy Ghost, and elevated by the hope of a heavenly and perfect eternity. If we see it as it is actually, Socialism stands apart from Christ, will have nothing to do with Him or His, repudiates not only earthly, but Divine authority, is actuated solely by sordid motives and earth-born passions, and when carried to its logical extreme of Anarchism and Atheism, throws to the winds all human love and duty and pity, utterly ignores the over-ruling providence of God, and denies the great facts of immortal existence, and eternal retribution. Within the last week, after some years of similar awful events, we have seen this red-handed Socialism gone mad slaying the chief ruler of France, and triumphing in the woful deed. The murder of this man, worthy and just according to his lights, is an instance of what may be expected from the highest civilization unenlightened by the Spirit of Jesus Christ. And in many less startling, because less con-