

brings to mind the circumstances under which the Turk first entered Europe.

As a grasp of chronology is unessential to salvation, it does not much matter, but undoubtedly nine people out of ten date the coming of the Turks to Europe from their capture of Constantinople in 1453—exactly as they date the revival of Greek studies in Western Europe from the same event. But in 1354, ninety-nine years earlier, the Turks had established themselves at Gallipoli, of which they have never since been dispossessed. Here, also, it is that we encounter Stephen Dushan, who, conveniently for the Turks, died in the year after they gained Gallipoli.

Through the ambition of modern Serbia to be a strong state, Stephen Dushan becomes a factor in world politics at this moment; for the Serbs no more forget his imperial greatness than the Germans forget that margin of territory by which the German Empire of to-day is smaller than the Empire of Henry III in 1050. Stephen Dushan, Emperor of Roumania, Slavonia and Albania, extended Serbian power over more than two-thirds of the Balkan Peninsula. With one long seaboard on the Adriatic and another on the Ægean, the southern Slavs were ready, but for the Turks, to attack Constantinople itself. Then the dream of glory faded. Stephen Dushan died just too soon to defy Islam. After that came the tragedy of Kossovo (1389) and the downfall of the greater Serbia in battle with Amurath.

But downtrodden races have long memories. Besides the ballads of Kossovo there remained as a national heritage, through the long captivity, the record of that Serbian Empire which was the last great work to be achieved in south-eastern Europe before the coming of the Moslem. For the Serbs to cut free from the Ottoman was to dream again of the earlier state with its coasts on the Ægean and the Adriatic. Unfortunately, at the same moment, Germany and Austria began to covet the Morava valley as their highway to Salonica and beyond. In all the patchwork politics of the Balkans there is no more singular concatenation of circum-