

man. But I see another law in my members warring against the law of my mind." The two natures struggle for the mastery, the one against the other. "The flesh lusteth against the spirit and the spirit against the flesh." The life is bad indeed, however fair the outward aspect. The fruit of the tree is the indication of the tree's nature. The fruit of a man's life reveals which nature, flesh or spirit, is in the ascendancy. The place of subjection belongs to the flesh. Let one permit the carnal nature to wield dominion, and into what abomination shall he fall? to what ruin be brought? We think these worst of sins are not possible. Ah! they are POSSIBLE in every life, if war be not waged against an evil bent. Give sin dominion and it will have more. It will not be content with partial sway, but will bring into merciless subjection every part of our being. Our safety from SINS is secured only when our opposition to SIN is strong, vigilant, unsparing, persistent. The mere fact of our having an evil nature is, with some, an excuse for, and a palliation of transgression. A man excuses his hasty temper, his lying habits, his intemperance, his covetousness, because it is his nature. With him it is constitutional. He

cannot avoid it, he says. "He ought to have indulgence." No! not indulgence, but counsel. Let him be shown how needful it is to remember that this evil nature is there, not to be obeyed, not to compel submission, but to be resisted, and in the strength of Christ to be vanquished.

Conflict with such enemies, therefore, is our life. Ours is not an atmosphere of peace but of strife. Let us not shirk the duty, and like men of craven spirit, or of thoughtless mood, surrender without a blow. "Fight the good fight" calls the voice to us from Heaven.

Secondly, in consideration of these words, our attention turns to THE TRIUMPH, for in this worthy contest victory is sure.

In many a conflict opposing powers measure their strength with each other only to find that they are equal, the issue is a drawn battle. In the good fight victory shall be upon one side or the other. Either must bear the humiliation, and the eternal disaster of defeat.

And further it need not be a matter of uncertainty who shall be the victor. Prediction in this case may be confident. The nation who sends her army to the front may be held in torturing suspense whilst her brave