

burn, at Morgarten and at Sempach. On from these earlier days, like the fiery cross among the Highlands, it sprang from valley to mountain top, from cloister and town to larger haunts of men. We trace it through Pre-Reformation struggles and sufferings, through protests and unnumbered martyrdoms, and through subsequent political and religious movements for greater freedom. At last the world has learnt to value those whose lives of arduous service and self-renunciation have achieved some advance in true freedom. When at length, in Britain and elsewhere, this spirit became consolidated, when the necessity for the internal struggle existed no more, or at least permitted the strife to slacken, the enfranchised, loving spirits cast their eyes abroad upon the poor, the ignorant, the diseased, the criminal, the slave of distant lands, and finally on the great heathen world, resulting in the missionary miracles of our waning century.

Modern crusaders of the greatest order of chivalry, they have created in the minds of poets and other artists a school of Christian romance, the unvarying theme of which is deliverance through service, even to suffering and death, but they have done more than this. Cardinal Bellarmine wrote a book, "*De Ascensione Mentis in Deum per Scalas Rerum Creatarum.*" We rise towards our true conception of God through the creature, and that is a Jacob's ladder uniting earth and heaven, every step of which is a member of Christ. Margaret Wilson, drowned near Wigton, was asked what she thought of her old friend now, buried almost under the advancing tide, and answered, "What do I see but Christ in one of His members wrestling there." In the light of such examples we go back to Holy Writ, and find in Christ, the God-Man, the highest conception of Divinity, not perhaps to detract from all or any of those taught us by other wise masters, but to constitute their crown. The God of love unspeakable sets the prisoners free in every age and from shore to shore, that all who will may partake of the fruit of His great sacrifice, the glorious liberty of the children of God.