

I feel even now thy sacred influence hovering o'er me, gently rebuking the troubled waters of my life and whispering "peace be still." So may'st thou evermore be by me. So may I believe thee over the sea where thy passage was so stormy, pointing upward!

Aweary I too must rest. Shrink not fearful spirit from the stern conflict of life, but rest thee for the struggle. Then purified from dross, chastened by sorrow go forth robed in white, where the whirlpool of life sweeps the weak into the vortex of ruin and lose thyself in action. So shalt thou at last have a place among God's workers, the band of the crowned immortal.

A STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM.

THERE are crises in the histories of peoples, when questions arise for consideration that swell far beyond the ordinary limits of sectional and national polity, inasmuch as they involve in their settlement, the triumph or defeat of those who are struggling for the dearest rights of man, in the face of towering oppression or burning wrong.

Such efforts on the part of the downtrodden appeal to the profoundest instincts and deepest sympathies of our common humanity. The repeated Thermopylae and Marathons of the past are among the crowning glories of the race, and the noble spirit therein displayed, is in its purity the most precious bequest in the inheritance of the ages. Even as we write, a struggle of this nature is in progress. A people, who have been for centuries the objects of a shameless oppression, have arisen as one man for the redress of their wrongs. These are the Herzegovinians, their oppressors are the Turks. In the South-Eastern peninsula of Europe and reaching beyond the Bosphorus, embracing South-Western Asia in its limits, rises the black fabric of Turkish corruption and tyranny. In the year 1356 the crescent first crossed the Hellespont, and the Ottomans planted themselves an invading army among the Slavonic nations to the east of the Adriatic. To-day, after the lapse of centuries the dominant and subject races remain as distinct with respect to their religion, their customs and national characteristics, as though the invasion were of yesterday. Those who have thoughtfully studied the relations that they hold to each other deny that the Turkish power as established among the Slavs, is in any legitimate sense a government. They have ever been, they are to-day, the oppressors of the people among whom they dwell, and it is plainly evident from remote as well as recent events, that the Slav regards their administration in no other

light than that of unmitigated tyranny. Now, the people who have lately risen in revolt, and whose struggle for liberty has become a subject of momentous interest, are a Slavonic race in the western part of European Turkey, the dwellers in the Herzegovina, a dependency of Bosnia, which in turn, is one of the Pashalics into which the peninsula is divided. The inhabitants of the Herzegovina are but a quarter of a million in number, but the spirit which they have lately manifested, is evidently shared in by the rest of Bosnia, and the other provinces, as they have all equally shared in the oppression of the Turk. Again these Herzegovinians with all the other Slavonic peoples in Turkey are christians, members of the Eastern or Greek church, which is at the same time the national faith of Russia. Much of the mischief in this case is traceable to the divergencies in religious belief. The Turk is a Mohammedan, his religion teaches him to look with utter contempt, practically merging into intolerance, upon the adherents of a different form of faith. For the Slav, he has nothing but sneers and insults, and loses no opportunity of carrying out the spirit of his religion in his dealings with him. Here is one sore spot that has been festering down through the centuries of tyranny, and has proved, in fact, the great insuperable barrier in the way of any approach to amalgamation between the two races. A train of evil follows from this as a fruitful source. A foreign invader could scarcely prove a greater curse than the pseudo government that is fastened upon them. Fiscal exactions, grinding taxes, and shameless extortions of so grievous and crushing a nature are imposed upon them, as are sufficient of themselves to reduce the people to beggary, and blast all enterprise and development. And this is not all. The commonest laws for the protection of life and property, are continually and grossly being violated. A Turk slays a Christian. The authorities look on unconcernedly, and the body is thrown like the worthless carcase of a dog into the hasty grave. If a Christian commits a crime of like kind and escapes, all his kinsfolk are put to the torture. Again the Turk is a polygamist of the most pronounced type. The women of Bosnia are fair to look upon. It follows as a natural sequence under such lawless rule, that every pretty girl is carried off to the harems. A peculiarly aggravating instance of this latter form of outrage, proved the immediate cause of the outbreak. Added to all this, and one of the bitterest elements in this bitter cup, is the fact that their immediate oppressors are men of like nationality with themselves, who have embraced Mohammedanism, and sold themselves to the Turk, and in connec-

tion with all this, it is to be remembered that these are not the grievances of yesterday, but the galling servitude of four weary centuries. At length, aroused to madness, the Herzegovinians have seized the sword for the redress of their wrongs. They are encouraged in this by the example of Servia on the east and Montenegro on the south, two provinces which have gained full practical emancipation from the Turkish yoke, and whose inhabitants are actively in sympathy with the present movement.

Herzegovina now desires to become as Servia and Montenegro, and be delivered *in toto* from her hateful bondage. The Turkish Government has again and again promised reform, but these reforms have never been carried out, and the victims have lost all faith in Mussulman promises. The reform they now desire is deliverance from the Turkish rule, and nothing short of this is likely to prove satisfactory. And here it is that the question assumes a broad significance. The pronounced and emphatic tone of the demands made by the insurgents, has rendered the revolt a matter of serious consideration to the cabinets of Europe. For a long while back it has been the orthodox political creed that the independence of European Turkey was absolutely essential to the preservation of the equilibrium of power among the several governments. The administration of Turkey is so thoroughly rotten, that the Herzegovinian revolt causes the entire fabric to shake most alarmingly, and the several policies of the Great Powers are poised so nicely that even so small an insurrection as that of the Slav, may prove sufficient to plunge them all into the involved horrors of a continental war. Let Turkey fall into the grasp of such a vigorous power as that of Russia, for instance, the key to the East is in her hand, and unlimited opportunities for the enlargement of naval resources. So the Great Powers have taken the matter in hand, and given their approval to the measures of reform drawn up by Andrassey the Austrian minister, in favor of the insurgents. The latest news from the continent is to the effect that the Sultan has agreed to grant the reforms thus presented. Austria stands ready with her troops, and England with a portion of her fleet, to quell the insurgents in case they refuse to compromise. Poor Herzegovina. We fear that the time for her deliverance has not yet arrived.

WE regret very much to learn that Mr. P. W. Campbell, Soph. of last year, is now quite ill at his home in St. George, N. B. We hope that his sickness, although of a rather malignant type, may soon yield to the force of good treatment and sound medical advice.