Dark Continent

Alex B. Darais
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Alex B. Darais is a professor emeritus of art at Brigham Young University.
This painting, produced several years after a poem by the same title, personifies the universal and ceaseless conflict between the forces of good and evil. Although the good, pathetically outnumbered, appears to be losing another battle, man still stubbornly and hopefully believes that truth will ultimately win the war. This struggle is indeed a sad and frightening spectacle, but when right is ruthlessly killed, as it often is, in a noble effort to do good (as in this particular instance in which William McChesney, "a 'heart of Africa' missionary affiliated with the worldwide evangelization crusade at Washington," meets a horrendous death with 206 others), it indeed becomes a tragedy that repeats once again the demise of the Savior.