

taste for good reading and a demand follows for works that show deep thought. The progress of a nation can be well traced by referring to the literature in circulation among the middle classes. The writer is an *inventor* of the highest order. He and his brother worker are both engaged to bring systematic success out of minute parts. The author has ideas which he shapes into attractive forms and so produces books. The ordinary inventor has odds and ends of material substances from which he will produce machines. Euclid invented geometrical demonstrations; and Archimedes, his forms of the Mechanical Powers. Now why is the one more of an inventor than the other?

The aim and ambition of the author is greater than that of his hopeful but inferior brother, and he has to pass through many vicissitudes of fortune before he can be at all sure of success. Of course the ordinary inventor may not succeed at first but the world will much more admire an inferior work from his hands than it will a most elegant and finished book full of ideas that should make mankind happier, and further civilization. Authors theorize and the lower class of laborers carry out the plans that their fertile brains have conceived.

History tells us that the improvement in the agricultural department of Italy can be traced to the suggestions of the *Georgics* in Virgil. No one can estimate the value of books as regards our progress in agriculture, enabling us to guard against the errors of former times and improve upon their state of society.

The world has not appreciated real talent, but has allowed authors, of now world-wide celebrity, to die in poverty, their funerals attended but by a few real friends, or worse yet by hired menials.

Compare the works of Carlyle with those of Emerson; one is like an orator of fire giving no heed to the rules laid down to guide a writer of essays. The

other is all system, and clothes his thoughts in language that no critic can attack. They succeed each in his own style and are read with great interest by all, though they are directly opposite. As one author says, "Carlyle makes the better actors and Emerson the better thinkers; the one *unites* too spontaneously, and the other *thinks* too spontaneously."

Give authors their due for they have been the ones to whom we have owed our advancement since time immemorial.

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### URANINE.

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This is the most recently discovered, and perhaps the most remarkable, of all the coal tar or aniline group of coloring substances, now so extensively used for the adornment of the finest fabrics. Uranine is said, by chemists, to be the most highly fluorescent body known to science. Its coloring power is astonishing; a single grain will impart a marked color to nearly five hundred gallons of water.

A most interesting experiment, which anybody may try, consists in sprinkling a few atoms of Uranine upon the surface of water in a glass tumbler. Each atom immediately sends down through the water what appears to be a bright green rootlet; and the tumbler soon looks as if it were crowded full of beautiful plants. The rootlets now begin to enlarge, spread and combine, until we have a mass of soft green colored liquid. Viewed by transmitted light, the color changes to bright golden or amber hue; while a combination of green and gold will be realized, according to the position in which the glass is held. For day or evening experiment nothing can be prettier than these trials of Uranine, which are especially entertaining for the young folks.—*Selected.*

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The best way for a man to get out of a lowly position is to be conspicuously effective in it:—*Jno. Hall.*