

tion they were much retarded by wars with new bands of immigrants. If defeated in these, they were again compelled to commence the subjugation of new territory. If victors, they received a new stock of their original barbarism which threatened to overwhelm what little improvement had been made in mind or in manners. But notwithstanding these disadvantages where did Cortez find them? In a city the architecture of which would have done credit to a nation of Europe; surrounded by palaces, treasure-houses and arsenals; proficient in sculpture, metallurgy and other arts; computing eclipses and measuring time by the solar year. Their women educated in reading, writing, arithmetic, music and astronomy. This change can be due to nothing but the nature of the country, and the decay that followed is as clearly due to European cruelty and the incompatibility of the alien races. And this decay has furnished us striking examples of the change in the race. The generalship of King Philip, the oratory of Logan and the diplomacy of Tecumseh are in everything Syrian rather than Turanian.

The government of America must ever be essentially democratic. Does democracy develop or degrade the intellectual and moral character of a nation? One would think that to point to democratic Athens and republican Rome would be sufficient answer to this question. Democracy in America, however, is the subject.

That the United States has not taken the lead in literature, science and art is evident. That she has been willing in a great degree to accept the investigations and receive the theories of other nations can not be denied. But to ascribe this to the form of government is wrong. It is due to the fact that hitherto more attractive fields of labor have been open to the American. Competition for wealth and for political honor has engaged American citizens, since the chance for success has been greater in these occupations than

in arts and sciences, and because every facility for following them is found here; in these pursuits the first great contest takes place between men on equal footing. In the contest for wealth the result has been that in America we find the richest man in the world while the laboring classes are in better circumstances than in any other nation. When the opportunities for eminence in these occupations have been lessened by the increasing number of those who engage in them then will America turn to literature and the arts with earnest endeavor, and her pre-eminence in them will be as marked as it is now in other occupations.

But of our moral character. Opponents of democracy say that we have lost all chivalry; that we have no disposition for great self-sacrifice; that the loving ties which bound the retainer to his lord are gone. Yes they are gone and I am thankful for it. If we are free from all the other pious marks invented for purposes great indeed must be our defects in other direction to counterbalance this improvement. Our moral excellence in other respects is now doubted. Only those who prefer the chivalry of the middle ages to the universal reverence of woman shown in the United States, question it at all.

Those who admit that our inferiority in literature and the science of the present time is due to the supremacy of the money-making class, assert that the prominence of that class will continue. I have no doubt commerce will always be a powerful factor in our nation but in time here as in Athens, Rome, and Italian cities of the middle ages, commerce from being the master will become the servant of the intellect.

W. P. S.

THE TIDE OF CIVILIZATION.

If the feudal lord, after the lapse of six centuries, were to return to the site of his once happy home, his mind would be lost in the mystery around him. The walls