

race after hearing a few words or sounds or symbols, combined and elaborated them until in the progress of the ages, there arose the splendid structure of human speech.

L. F.

POWER OF THOUGHT.

N the temple of Apollo was placed the significant inscription, "Know Thyself." These words, standing in silence, thrilled the soul of Socrates, and by their power caused him to draw from the wealth of his intellect, ideas of the immaterial, which define with clearness the immortality of the soul.

This work, the greatest of human achievements, the revelation of earth's deepest mystery, proved through its accomplishment the power of the human soul, the wonderful capacities of man.

This man, in a greater degree than all other earthly beings possessed immortal thought. Thought that from the beginning has been the prime mover of all things; not content with penetrating the hidden chambers of creation, it rises in its might and contemplates even the mind of the Creator. Not even the power of man can stay it. Its progress is inevitable. It spans unchecked the chasm of time formed by the lapse of ages, and arrives by so doing at the only point beyond which it cannot pass,—the beginning of time.

It is supposed that the creation of man was coeval with earthly thought, and beyond this point, the most significant epoch of time, lies that which to other souls created before us, may have been a treasured vault, but which to us is void and naught but darkness. Of that time we know nothing. Light only dawned upon us when this the great land of the unknown, was revolutionized, when order was brought out of chaos, and an omnipotent hand loosed the gate of Paradise with the golden keys of life, and permitted to come forth from her labyrinth, a part of her immortal treasure, intellectual man.

This period when the mind of man had birth, forms the ending of a dateless era and the commencement of a new one, and now through the agency of all powerful thought, improvements mark the course of every age. The entire field of nature has been examined by this invincible investigator. Earth with her beauties and treasures has been explored, and her boundaries defined, revealing a state when all was chaos, and none knew, save the Invisible, of her future destiny.

Age upon age of varying action of countless forces, in her formation, is shown us by illimitable thought, which penetrates as far backward along the course of time as there is an atom for it to grasp.

Ascending from the earth beneath it separates the atmosphere into its unchangeable elements; defines the innumerable agents which control the order and symmetry of the universe; calculates the velocity of light, and the magnitudes and distances of suns. Nay more, thought is able to turn and scrutinize its own being: thus discovering its own immortality. Even lightning, which in its dazzling brightness and strength appears unconquerable, humbly yields its services, and becomes the willing and subservient agent of its conqueror.

Inventions which seemed impossible, to past generations, throng upon us, and thus the mighty forces of nature are subdued to the service of man.

In the field of literature there are innumerable volumes of the richest variety, which serve as lamps to our feet, illuminating our way as we toilingly proceed. Foremost amongst the splendid ornaments of humanity stand Bacon, Milton and Shakspeare. Men to whom in the full development of their intellect the world seemed as an open scroll, whose characters, unintelligible to their predecessors were to them the plain revelations of truth, the history of the buried past, the fleeting present and the undying future.

Thus, as they reached the summit of fame, and lettered their names in immor-