

normal schools, while higher education is obtained in the gymnasiums, the polytechnic institute and the university. The system of elementary schools is well developed in all the towns and, in many of the villages, the schools are equal to those in the cities. In regions where the population is sparse it is impossible, as in England or America, to reach a high proficiency; but, to-day, practically the whole population, from six to twelve years of age, is at school and taught by well-trained teachers. The secondary schools, under government supervision, take the pupil from the age of thirteen to sixteen and prepare for the gymnasium. In the gymnasiums we find great development during the last fifteen years. In 35 schools there are 216 instructors and 4,700 pupils, scattered through the four years' course. The system of instruction is generally German, and the charge is often only a nominal matriculation fee.

The polytechnic school is a gift from three patriots from Northern Greece. It is built entirely of Pentelic marble, and is used in parts for galleries of paintings and sculptures. The school has courses in architecture and engineering, with 24 instructors and 500 pupils.

The University was founded under royal patronage in 1837. It was organized on the German plan, with four faculties—theology, philosophy, law and medicine. The medical department as two divisions—medicine proper, requiring four years, and pharmaceuticals, demanding three years, while law, theology, and philosophy, the latter embracing physics and mathematics, require four years. Thus the invisible Greece, that part of the nation that is, in the future, to wield the destinies of the country, is strengthening itself. Education is the weapon she is using in every bit of territory she calls her own; these schools, established and mostly supported by Greeks grown wealthy outside the limits of Greece proper, are so many frontier fortresses which are all the more effective because they employ weapons of peace. The outlook for higher education is flattering. The great base of the pyramids, popular education, has been solidly laid, and soon we may expect to see the superstructure carried to its completion. When the restlessness, incident to the present unsettled state of Greece, shall have been quieted by the extension of the Hellenic kingdom to embrace all Greek speaking lands and a strong polit-

ical party shall develop and control popular affairs, Athens will once more take her place as the educational centre of the Levant. England had her Oxford and Cambridge 700 years ago. Italy for a still longer time has boasted of Bologna and Padua. Greece will find her time, too. This country, we believe, has prospered during the period of her independence; but the interference of foreign power, at a critical period of the nation's history, was nearly fatal. Self-aggrandizement is alike the ruin of the individual and the bane of the nation, and it is to be deplored that, among modern Greeks, the tendency to boast of the heroes of Thermopylæ and the glories of Salamis are far too great. But Greece has learned in that hard school experience, that prosperity follows only as the reward of labor, and, left to herself, who can deny that she has advanced in every department of personal and national character.

Again, it is much the custom of modern writers and travellers to represent the Greeks of to-day as artful and dishonest. Artful they may be to a degree, but dishonest they certainly are not, and it is a notable fact that while the Greek commercial classes are both keen and money-making, they are entirely honorable, so that a bankruptcy is entirely unheard of among the Greek firms in any of the mercantile centres of Europe. We would, alas, do well to remember that the tendencies of an enslaved people, naturally intelligent and mentally much superior to their conquerors, would ultimately be diverted towards over-reaching those despised captors. The artful politician is the son of the designing slave, and so Greek politics have of late been too largely composed of petty intrigues and dangerous plots; but the silver lining already gleams brightly, where frowning clouds but lately darkened the horizon of the future of Greece. No longer fettered by alliance with scheming foreigners, the country has advanced with such rapid strides as to surprise even her most ardent admirers.

And we should look well to the source of our information concerning this much abused people. Modern travellers are more anxious to obtain the measurements of statues and theatres than to study the national character; and very often condemn the poor native as utterly worthless, if every ignorant peasant, or equally ignorant priest, does not exhibit the valor of Brasidas and the wisdom of Solon.