

like have from time to time twined their folds about his brave forefathers. He will also feel exulting inspiration, when some strong man armed breaks the oppressor's bow in pieces; when the sage propounds laws which are made superior to gold and to the sword; and when the eloquent statesman from a centre, as the sun from his sphere, enlightens and ameliorates many nations.

History is said to be a satire on our race, and in a certain degree it is so; for, though many gems are scattered over the page, its prevailing tints are those of wrong, rapine, and blood. We cannot pause to exemplify this mortifying truth; but would remark, that the feelings excited by it are well relieved, when we look to the better and higher achievements of our race on the earth; and when we see the proud standing, which our own Country has attained among the Kingdoms.

Glancing from England's early history, to its present state, a great contrast indeed appears; and the intermediate steps, which led from one to the other, comprise the study of which we have been speaking.

At the present day, with all her deficiencies, Old England is tacitly acknowledged as the centre of earth's *civilization, refinement and strength*. Her flag is still supreme on land and ocean; the wealth of her merchants and nobles is unrivalled; her literature is translated into every civilized tongue, to delight and instruct all people: while to those who visit the favoured land, her palaces, temples and cottages,—her public works, machinery, and liberal institutions,—exhibit a pageant of *solid magnificence never to be forgotten*. It is the study of such a nation's history that I would call a delightful duty.—I need not multiply inducements; we are *ourselves*, an illustration of her innate splendor and energy.—In a country three thousand miles from her metropolis, and which, a century ago, was divided between the wandering Indians, and the beasts of the wilderness, we now find many of her characteristics in miniature; and behold, as in the present instance, an assemblage of her citizens, met for the cultivation of those arts and sciences, which have enriched and dignified their Mother-land.

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