

the word labor, I do not intend the mere corporeal toil, which the reformers of a certain school seem to consider as alone entitled to regard ; nor do I mean entirely to exclude it ; for no form of cheerful diligence, in the fulfilment of our mission here on earth, is without its power and dignity. A pervading earnestness of spirit informs and elevates all conditions of human exertion. But its noblest exhibition, is that which tasks the energies of heart and brain ; and stirs within us the impulses of a high intelligence, and something higher still—the moral sense which binds us to another world. I would again insist upon this plain and hacknied, but unheeded truth, that where this spirit of labor is not, no gift of nature or of fortune can avail. Genius can rear no monument without its aid. It is the condition, imposed by God himself, upon the attainment of all excellence and happiness by man.

A second conclusion which I have endeavored to enforce is, that these Exhibitions are significant of a civilization, high in degree, and different in principle, from that which any other age has offered ;—their vital principle is a spirit of peace. It is not that there is to be no more war ; such a consummation is not yet near, for slow and painful is the ascent of nations in the scale of virtue. But the supremacy of that great evil is abated. The sounding words and glittering pomp, which have so long misled the world, are beginning to be understood ; and the thoughtful and the just have learned, and are declaring, that war, and its miscalled glory, are the offspring of those baser instincts, which are nearest earth, and most remote