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less successful. War and aggrandisement were the great objects of ROMAN ambition. In Greece, the honors of War held only an equal place, in the estimation of the people, with the honors of Science; and the Crown awarded by the public voice for superiority of genius raised its possessor's rank in society equally the same whether that Crown was composed of laurel or of parsley.

Rome colonized for military purposes only; and having the resources of the world at her command—holding its mines and its revenues to fill her Exchequer, and its very inhabitants for her slaves, for a time continued to exist and flourish without the aid of Commerce or Manufactures. But this system necessarily wrought its own destruction. The successful General, or Prætor, who amassed a fortune greater than that of a modern Monarch by the plunder of a Province, became a Roman Noble, while the soldier who had fought by his side must be contented with his scanty pittance of unground wheat for his food, and a little vinegar and water for his drink. Thus the wealth of all the world became collected in Rome at the very time when ninety-nine out of the one hundred of its inhabitants were either retainers of the wealthiest Nobility the world ever knew, or paupers, subsisting chiefly on the donations of corn allowed them to save them from starvation out of the public stores.

Thus Rome, by a different road, arrived exactly at the same end that Egypt and India had done. The few alone had any interest in the well-being of the State—the many, feeling that they were as low as they could be, were perfectly conscious that no change could be for the worse. What constitutes the strength of England was the weakness of Rome. The extent of her possessions, instead of by Commerce adding to her wealth, by the expence that they caused deducted from her resources. And in the second and third century we find that the Rulers of Rome became aware of the danger of their situation. We find her gradually withdrawing her Garrisons from the extremities nearer to the centre, and that her barbarian foes, conscious of her declining strength, never failed to occupy the ground that she had abandoned, till, by little and little, they were driven from Britain to Gaul, then across the Alps, till at last the second invasion of barbarians got possession of the Capitol itself. The light of Science and Literature, driven from their ancient seats of Italy and Greece, burned with a feeble flame in the Western Empire, till the hordes of the East extinguished it there. Then succeeded that long night of ignorance, that chaos of the moral