

intimately, such as would warrant the assumption of merit which he evidently thinks his due.

If I may be permitted to define the much-abused term of "gentleman," as describing a man who, while jealous and tenacious of his own dignity and personal rights, is equally careful and tender of those of others, and who, under no circumstances, can be tempted to the commission of a mean or unworthy action, it may admit of question whether Mr. Bancroft's character will bear the test.

When, in his note to me of February 5th, he expresses surprise at my feelings, because in other parts of his work he gives praise to General Schuyler, it is clear that he cannot appreciate how deeply the epithet of cowardice shocks the sensibilities of honorable men.

When General Washington, in his memorial to Congress, expresses a strong wish that the appointment of officers should be given to "gentlemen," Mr. Bancroft deems it necessary to devote a page to explain away and palliate the use of the word. He speaks of General Schuyler's "social position," as if that were a drawback to his merit.

By these poor bids for popularity, at the expense of dignity, he shows that weakness of a common nature which cannot take in the true spirit of the American