

ual matters he is profoundly interested, and seeks their highest good. So that while their studies may deprive men of their interest in some of their neighbors' affairs, it more than compensates for it by giving them an intense and more practical sympathy with them in that particular line to which they have devoted their lives.

The comprehensive views which education enables men to take of the problems of the day qualify them for the position of leaders. It is as impossible for a leader to be alienated from the people as for a general to be alienated from his army. At the same time the leader is raised above his followers, but he must have the liveliest interest in their welfare and progress, since his success and that of the cause next his heart is bound up with theirs. There is a false idea abroad that everyone is alienated from the masses who does not pander to the basest in them and associate with them on equal terms. But separation does not mean alienation. Those who would lead, must occupy the position of leaders, that they may take comprehensive views of the situation and be able to direct the movements of the whole army under their command.

Our leaders of thought, in many

cases, rarely come directly into contact with the masses. They generally devote their lives to one line of study, but by their researches they are striving to benefit the race in that particular direction and are doing more for the universal well-being than they could in any other way. Edison, immured in his study, toils for the race's material progress. He and thousands like him in other spheres of thought, never seeing the faces of the vast majority for whom they labor are unselfishly devoting all their powers to ameliorate the condition of their fellow-men.

It may appear that the thoughts of many of our authors, as in much of our philosophy and science, are of little practical importance, but the thought of a nation, not its commerce, is its life. Athens and Jerusalem, not Tyre and Sidon, have influenced the world. The wealth and commerce of the latter are all forgotten, but the sublime visions of the Hebrew seers and singers, and the poetry and philosophy of the Greeks are influencing the world to-day, enriching and broadening the lives of all men, and will continue to do so until the end, even though the nations that produced them are comparatively insignificant. And the ones whose thoughts are thus im-