

produce, and enables them, while occupying cheap land, remote from cities, to enjoy all the comforts and advantages of civilization. The difficulties attending settlement in uncleared lands are thus, to a great extent abolished; and there can be little doubt that this mode of conducting colonization is destined to play an important part in the history of the future, and to accelerate vastly the great westward human march. The all-conquering wave of civilization is destined soon to invade those solitudes where now the bear, the wolf and the fox reign supreme. Away beyond the Mississippi, beyond the Rocky Mountains, where sound of axe and gun has never yet been heard, the scream of the locomotive will ere long awake the echoes; and man, the king, the conqueror, borne on his iron fire-breathing chariot, will rule supreme over his rightful domains. His outposts are advancing daily from the Atlantic's shore. The distant hills and vales await him; the forests bend their tremulous tops to listen for him; for all that is in the compass of the land is given him to possess; and aided by his all-conquering steam-power, he is destined to appropriate its treasures and scatter the refuse as the dust beneath his feet.

In summing up his account of Mr. Brassey's labours, Sir Arthur Helps devotes a chapter to the leading features in the character of this remarkable man. He remarks how in early life he had mastered the details of nearly every kind of labour which it was necessary to understand for the accomplishment of great works of construction. But he did not stop there. "He attained that most valuable art which belongs to the master rather than the man,—namely, that of dealing with details in masses: of leaving minutiae to those whose business it is to attend to such things; and of directing and supervising work instead of doing it all himself: this great change of occupation is not often easily accomplished by men after their youth has passed, it being then a somewhat difficult matter to transform a subordinate into a principal." Trustfulness was one of the most remarkable features of Mr. Brassey's character; and in his case, appears to have been one of the principal elements in his success. The judicious master always confides largely in his agents, and moreover is able to abstain from unwise interference and needless criticism, and to be content with allowing his work to be done by other people in their own way, so that it be well done. Regarding this confidence in