

progress, and many new developments were brought about. But it remained for the nineteenth century to complete the perfecting process of the art; and the results achieved during the last fifty years have been wonderful indeed. The progress of the art may be instanced in the perfected guns which are turned out by the Krupp factory. The gunpowder which we now have at our disposal is an explosive of a much improved nature to that in use four or five centuries ago; and the manufacture of it is a most important industry. The quantity of saltpetre, charcoal and sulphur consumed in its manufacture is something enormous.

Other developments of the use of gunpowder are its applications to shells and torpedoes. The modern rifle is a vastly improved instrument on the original musket. Revolvers and pistols are other weapons which go to show the wonderful developments made in gunnery, an art which had its source in the invention of gunpowder.

Besides in the art of war, where its use has of course been most extensive and important, gunpowder has rendered valuable service to man in the arts of peace. In mining and other operations it has been largely called to aid, and ably assisted man's weak efforts, making possible works which without its application would be almost impracticable. Of late years it has been to a great extent supplanted in this direction by more powerful explosives; but it possesses qualities which these do not possess. There is less danger attendant upon its use, and it is more easily managed.

From what has been said, it becomes evident that the invention of gunpowder was a most important step in the history of mankind, revolutionizing as it does the art of war, and exercising a moral influence on the strifes between nations, causing greater foresight in their methods, and diminishing, perhaps, their frequency.

LOUIS J. KEHOE, '94.



Wisdom, slow product of laborious years,
 The only fruit that life's cold winter bears.
 Thy sacred seeds in vain in youth we lay,
 By the fierce storm of passion torn away;
 Should some remain in a rich gen'rous soil,
 They long lie hid, and must be rais'd with toil;
 Faintly they struggle with inclement skies,
 No sooner born than the poor planter dies.

LADY MONTAGUE.