

position of the sciences, whose sublimest truths are derived, not only from such things as clams and periwinkles, but from those far minuter atoms, of whose very existence, if left to the unaided evidence of our senses, we should be ignorant : such things, individually simple though they be, aggregate into mountain forms of more than Alpine magnitude, and have shaped the character of the world.

It is not for us to contract the steam flowing out of the treasury, so much, as to seek to enlarge and multiply the channels by which it may flow in. Our mineral wealth is lying unused and for the most part unsought ; our water power and manufacturing facilities are lying dormant ; our skilled workmen are few, and the country is only now beginning to be developed. We stand much in need therefore of scientific men ; we stand in need of the manufacturer, the mechanic and the artisan. These combined form the rational alchemy that will convert our forests, minerals, earth, fire, water into gold. And that which denies us this, at whatever cost, is antipodal to our interests, and is not economy, but a dangerous and impoverishing parsimony.

C. C.

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### ELIHU BURRITT, THE LEARNED BLACKSMITH.

This remarkable man was born in New Britain, Connecticut, in December, 1811, and is consequently in his forty-eighth year. As the youngest son of the family, he was almost always at home, until he had attained his sixteenth year. Up to that period he had the benefit of only three months' schooling. When his father died, he apprenticed himself to a blacksmith. At this business he wrought until he was twenty-one, when, by the advice of an elder brother he laid down his tools ; and with the view of qualifying himself as a Land Surveyor, became a student for one-half year. Knowing that he could earn a dollar and a half a day at his trade, he studied with unswerving assiduity ; and when spring came, Burritt went back to his anvil. Having read Virgil in the original, grounded himself in Mathematics, and made considerable progress in French, (it is not in the nature of such a man as Burritt to do anything by halves) ; and once back at his forge, to make up for lost time, he engaged to do the work of two men, and receive double wages. To do this he had to work fourteen hours each day ; but yet with such labour on his hands, he managed to read Virgil, or a few pages of French, morning or evening. Now, too, he began to look into Spanish, and during the same summer he procured a Greek grammar, and while standing by his furnace, waiting for his metal to fuse—(he was casting Cow-bells)—he would commit to memory part of a Greek verb.

In the autumn of this year he removed to New Haven—not to enter Yale College—he had not means to do that—but possibly with a vague idea that