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No. 239.

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

## Measuring a Man.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE": If we wish to form a true estimate of a man, how are we to proceed? Gauge him for his physical proportions, measure him mathematically, or place him on the scales? Shall we adjudge him for his money-making ability, or by the actual amount of wealth ha or by the actual amount of wealth he possesses; shall we appraise him accordpossesses; shall we appraise nim accord-ing to his popularity, his social or business status, his rank or his birth? Should we classify a man according to his obscurity or his conspicuousness in the industrial, the commercial, the intellectual or the moral world?

in the industrial, the commercial, the intellectual, or the moral world? I think that any or all of the standards suggested may fail to disclose his true measure or intrinsic worth. A man physically small may be intellectually large, and the converse. Character is influenced by many factors, as educa-tion, evironment, associates. Mantion, evironment, associates. even the strongest-does not always make circumstances; circumstances sometimes make the man. An estimate of Cincinnatus, in his obscure country home prior to his call to relieve the Consul, would have been very different from that passed upon him as dictator at the brilliant court of Rome. Exigencies of state and the call of duty had revealed a character before unknown in one and the same personality. History affords many examples of this nature. An Alexander the Great could not, in our day, march to universal victory. The caprices and despotism of Henry the eighth would not now be tolerated. The achievements of an Oliver Cromwell were those of other and earlier conditions. A Napoleon Bonaparte, to win glory in our day, would find it necessary to modify the character and direction of his volcanic ambition. The brilliant but materialistic Voltaire (and others of his school) whose blighting influence, like that of a baneful meteor, flashed across the fair realm of France and helped to produce the horrors of the French revolution, would now scarce find a hearing. The thinker now seeks the spiritual or something akin thereto in all realms.

Money may seem to rule the world, but it is always in reality a secondary or subordinate force. It is itself one of the products or by-products of mind acting upon or directing certain agencies, elements or forces in nature or in commerce so as to produce something of value to humanity, and even this value is not always recognized. The commodify or thing produced and which is represented by money or which has money value, may be the crop of the farmer, a product of the mine, the forest, a lake, sea, or ocean (fisheries), it may be the product of humble toil, but even here is a directing mind; it may be the work of the skilled artisan who enwork of the skilled artisan who en-hances the value of steel a thousand fold in the mainspring of the watch. Money is represented by things of service to man, but these are chiefly products of initiative, intellect or genius. It is, perhaps, seldom that a man of truly great or noble mind makes money the direct or special object of his aspira-

the direct or special object of his aspiration; it is rather a contingent or minor consideration. Many of the noble of earth have lived and died in poverty.

"Seven cities fought for mighty Homer



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Mention this Paper

Through which the living Homer begged his bread." dead

The discoverer of our great western continent died poor. Money reward is in many instances not at all commensurate with the effort one may put forth, or with the amount or kind of work he may accomplish. Money may come to a man through some fortunate circumstance — inheritance, finding a mine, an oil or gas well on his farm; or it may be withheld regard-less apparently of his merit or demerit. Men lose fortunes in a good cause or perform the noblest service in the face of persecution, as is usual with important achievements. No standard can be more false than the money standard as the measure of a man. Good men and bad men, men with much talent, men with little talent, the learned and the unlearned, the industrious, the idle, the strenuous, the indolent are found with strenuous, the indoient are found with and without money possession. Happily, however, there are other rewards than money. One of these is an approving conscience; another is, the homage paid by the good and wise of all area to by the good and wise of all ages to

