" That is for you to discern, my dear."

" I see it.   Yourself, Uncle, who would take the butt-end of the conversation."

" And you, I imagine, like Ebenezer, would much prefer the butt-end of the pudding, and the lighter share of the work."

" Well, I think you had better continue your talk with Papa. That story is amply sufficient for me," returned she.

" Yes ; I think so too," said her father.   " If your uncle cannot produce something better than that, he may as well go on with his former subject.   It will be the least tiresome."

" Just what I wanted," exclaimed the gentlemen referred to.

" Your story was a regular Yankee trick to bore us into compliance with your wishes.   But go on, Uncle.   We are now resigned.   Commence where you left off, and finish as soon as possible," said the young lady with a comical sigh.

Her uncle braced himself erect in his seat, smiled delightedly upon his disgusted auditors ; " I shall have you all my own way now"—and then he continued—" The ultimate destinies of a nation must evidently depend in great measure upon the country in which its multitudes reside : the land itself which forms their heritage."

" No matter what may be the physical or the psychical capabilities of the races inhabiting, the measure of the greatness they may attain will be very much determined by the physical capabilities of the land they inhabit.   If their country be naturally great, fertile, beautiful, grand in its contour and extent, its people should become a great people, and reach the highest civilization."

" The peculiar genius and bent of the races composing it, their mental and physical endowments, may be the chief factor of the sum of the civilization and power they may reach ; but not the sole causes.   The natural conditions of that portion of God's bright world which has become theirs, bear powerful and determining influences."