

minds, however, do not require systems, and they originate those masterly plans which win fame, as the emergency calls for them, paying only sufficient attention to the study of general rules as to enable them to anticipate the tactics of adversaries who, while they may be men of ability, their tuition has made them martinets, and their devotion to the formalities of their profession lays them open to the designs of artifice; so as, in the case of knowing huntsmen who calculate to a dead certainty the invariable habits of the craftiest animals, while the former usually triumph in the breach, the latter fall miserable victims to the observance. This is as true of politics as of war, and applies wherever persuasion meets opposition or progress resistance. Indeed, a policy that would succeed in one case would, if observed to the letter in another, bring disaster; and an expedient that would suggest itself to a common sense mind, untrammelled with theories, would, by exemplarians, be tabooed as plausible but irregular.

II.

In the war of opinions, we find, all through history, the conflict of partisan zeal waging fiercely round certain standards, raised in the diverse views of men who, for some reason or other, have acquired a reputation for superior intelligence, and whose other virtues are presumed to be in the same laudable proportion. Many of these, with no more learning than is sufficient to propound perplexing problems, and no higher intellectual endow-