

with all their grandeur, but for the names of Hannibal and Napoleon? The lochs and friths of Scotland were immortalized by Scott, and therefore the world goes to gaze upon them. Melrose Abbey is seen by moonlight, in the glamour of his poetry; and the mist about Ben Lomond is the fairy-woven veil of Scott's coronet." Even the ocean appears invested with a loftier grandeur, when we think of it with Byron, as a "glorious mirror, where the Almighty's form glasses itself in tempests." All proclaiming the same truth, that mind is grander than matter.

*Third*—One of the most remarkable and significant tendencies of the times, is the tendency of power toward the masses of the people. The political currents are unmistakably in the direction of democracy. Manhood is slowly but surely turning the scale against canonized prejudices and long enthroned oligarchies. Power is seeking its centre of gravity a great deal nearer the base of society than formerly. The late reform act of England only indicates the drift of the times. Whatever our politics—whether we think it good or evil—the fact cannot be questioned, that power is steadily descending to the masses. This fact is profoundly significant. If power is given to those who have not the intelligence to use it wisely, the result has always been disastrous. The very idea that the most ignorant and vicious classes may shortly be holding the balance of political power in our country, is truly alarming. It reminds us that we must educate the people, or else submit to let ignorance seize the helm of the ship of state, and steer her on the reefs of destruction. It was a suggestive fact, that immediately after the passing of the English Reform Act, an important educational measure was introduced, designed to afford the advantages of education to all classes of society not reached by previous agencies. I advert to this tendency, to call your attention to our obligation to educate the rising generation, intellectually and morally, if we would save our country from the evils of political degeneracy and corruption. As thistles on our neighbour's farm may shed their baneful seed on our soil, the ignorance and vice around us may, if unremoved, prove the ruin and blight of those in whom we are most deeply interested.

*Fourth*—The tendency to recognize the rights and elevate the condition of woman, is one of these signs of an advancing civilization, that I hail with great satisfaction. I must confess that there is a good deal said in some quarters just now on this subject, with which I do not fully sympathize. But I freely confess that in many particulars the laws have treated her exceptionally; and social customs and prejudices have been equally unjust and severe. Nei-