

be found. The wind bloweth where it listeth; and when it fell his ships were becalmed and his windmills stopped. He could not store Nature's energies and had no access to those she had stored herself. And for the vast bulk of his work he had only the strength of his own limbs and that of a few animals little stronger than himself. His machines had no other power to drive them and, thus limited, were little more than magnified hand-tools.

Even with resources so restricted the life of man was of course by no means always and everywhere poor and brutish. At fortunate periods, and in favoured regions, there have been advanced, and even materially rich, civilizations, of which the earliest were several millennia before Christ. In art, in literature, in philosophy, in all that expresses the rich potentialities of the human mind and personality and makes possible the highest form of human happiness, man achieved a quality which he has never surpassed since he entered into his heritage of greater power. Yes, but civilization through all these earlier centuries was, of hard necessity, the privilege of a few. In the most fertile regions man might wrest from nature a little more than his necessities with a little less than his full measure of strength and time; out of the margin must come the cost of his government and defence,