

and governed, should teach us to avoid the mistakes, and also to copy the good qualities of past government. Were there no historical records, a nation must make but little, if any, progress.

The history of individuals also is of great benefit to us. We see how wrongdoing has been punished, how virtue has been rewarded, how true happiness has been the result of righteousness, and thus we are supplied with an additional motive to virtue.

Note, if you will, the effect of literature on social, political and religious reforms. One of the most potent factors of our civilization is the press. Reforms come slowly as it is, but how much more slowly would they be brought about were it not for the newspapers in which the voice of the nation makes itself heard, and demands the attention of statesmen. It is a well-known fact that the writings of Mr. Stead in the Pall Mall Gazette, had a powerful influence in the formation of British cabinets, and in compelling the English government to pass laws of moral and social reform, which might never otherwise have been placed on the statute books. 'Tis true that we could not enjoy our newspapers and periodicals, if it were not for the printing press, that wonderful production of science. But was it not literature that created the demand for this? Certainly, literature existed long before the printing press came into existence. What use would be a thrashing machine if there were no grain to thrash, what use would be a sewing machine if there were no cloth to sew, and what use would be a printing press if there were no literature to print?

Look for a moment at the Protestant Reformation. Could Luther and his fellow workers so successfully have propagated the grand principles of the Reformation, had it not been for the aid of the literature which was scattered broadcast over the country? In the temperance re-

form, which is now being so vigorously agitated, literature is essentially necessary to supply the people with information on the subject. True, science shows us the injurious effects of alcohol on the system, but it does not require a chemist or a physiologist to see that intemperance is an unmitigated evil.

Another mighty factor in reforms is public speaking. The sentiment of the people is educated, and reforms are in a great measure brought about by public speakers. Now a man requires to be conversant with literature that he may be supplied with suitable language, also with facts and illustrations that may produce the desired effect on his hearers. The man who has devoted himself to science alone, would, to say the least, not be very effective in such work as this.

Science teaches us to admire, to marvel at the wonderful works of the Creator, to see a little of his infinite power. But in studying literature we are really studying man, the motives that prompt him to action, thoughts, the utterance of which has moved society to its very foundations,—in short, we are studying human nature in all its different phases, and inasmuch as man is a spirit, is he not a nobler, a greater work of God, than the material universe?

The study of languages has been an essential factor of education. Had foreign languages not been studied, past ages would have been unilluminated, unknown, but languages are the key which open wide the door. Ancient History, the Bible itself, would remain forever sealed to us had we no knowledge of Greek, Latin, Hebrew, etc. The language of Science, that is its technical terms is taken almost entirely from Greek and Latin.

Let us turn our attention to Science as applied to war. As Science progresses, the instruments of warfare become more and more terrible and appalling, producing fear-

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