532

his will upon some object of vengeance or possession, and hang on till death; but he must be free to choose his own time and place. Regularity seems to him, of all things, the worst tyranny. His patience is monumental, because his whole creed and philosophy of life teach that what he wants must come, and that it is better to wait for it than to strive for it. I believe the power of accomplishment throughout the East, and particularly in China, is tremendous; but they will not exercise it at the cost of mechanical persistence. Symptoms of a similar kind we find in our own race. Men capable of the most tremendous mental and moral labor seem to be mentally and physically torpid at times. They shrink from any exertion whatever as from pain. I see no signs that these broad differences are lessening. Japan whipped into exertion by maltreatment has armed herself, but even Japan rests what she has accomplished upon quite other moral and religious sanctions than ours.

What, then, is to be our attitude; what the results of the increasing intercourse between West and East? Either the English and the Americans, to speak only of our own case, believe their own civilization is superior to that of the people they govern, and that therefore they have a