

"The worth of a state in the long run is the worth of the individuals composing it."—J. S. MILL.

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"It is very certain that no man is fit for everything ; but it is almost as certain too, that there is scarcely any one man who is not fit for something, which something nature plainly points out to him by giving him a tendency and propensity to it. Every man finds in himself, either from nature or education (for they are hard to distinguish), a peculiar bent and disposition to some particular character ; and his struggling against it is the fruitless and endless labor of Sisyphus. Let him follow and cultivate that vocation, he will succeed in it, and be considerable in one way at least."—LORD CHESTERFIELD'S *Miscellaneous Works*.

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"THE chief use of biography consists in the noble models of character in which it abounds. Our great forefathers still live among us in the records of their lives, as well as in the acts they have done and which live also ; still sit by us at the table, and hold us by the hand ; furnishing examples for our benefit, which we may still study, admire, and imitate. Indeed, whoever has left behind him the record of a noble life has bequeathed to posterity an enduring source of good, for it lives as a model for others to form themselves by in all time to come ; still breathing fresh life into us, helping us to reproduce his life anew, and to illustrate his character in other forms. Hence a book containing the life of a true man is full of precious seed ; to use Milton's words. 'It is the precious life-blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life.' Such a book never ceases to exercise an elevating influence and a power for good. It may not have the power of the living life of a man ; but it is a record of greatness which we cannot help admiring, and unconsciously imitating while we admire.

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"The solid foundations of liberty must rest upon individual character, which is also the only sure guarantee for social security and national progress."—DR. SMILES.