

mechanic skilled in his work and taking pride in his skill, earning good wages and owning his home, with a loving family round him, is, we may fairly hope, a happy man; not less happy perhaps than the owner of millions.

In estimating the rate of progress, we have to allow for an immense, in some cases reckless, increase of population, as well as for the retarding influence of human faults and vices which have not been confined to the moneyed class.

The author of "Progress and Poverty" assumes that poverty has increased with progress. He wrote in the country in which the progress has been the greatest and the poverty least.

Popular education, also, it must be admitted, has increased sensibility to social disadvantage and generated distaste for manual labour. Distaste for manual labour is becoming dangerous. But this is the attendant shadow of what all the world counts a blessing and a gain.

It might probably be said that the envy naturally kindled in the poorer orders by the