

The Coin of Vantage

mark upon us. Sober thought in every age has felt compelled to recognize the ruinous consequences of wrong-doing, and has set them forth sometimes with terrible distinctness. The pages of the Hebrew seers are burdened with messages of retribution. A tragic gloom settles over the masterpieces of the Greek drama. Some schools of modern literature seem to have an almost morbid relish for discovering again the grim irony of sin, and tracing the footprints of inexorable Nemesis. And in view of the attempts made in certain quarters to obscure the antagonism between good and evil, or, perhaps, to deny its existence, can any voice be unheeded, even though it takes a lower tone than the ancient prophets, if it affords some reminder of the essential sanity of righteousness?

But something more remains to be said in order to bring the whole truth before us. As a man looks back upon his career, and