

to eat his nut, thinks more of his own admirable figure and curled tail, than of the savory food. Hear the birds: do you think they dwell on the value of food half so much as on the beauty of song. Listen! that lark who springs up and flies away, higher and higher, till he is almost lost to your sight; what cares he for grubs or grain. He delights to hear his own voice, and to let others hear, and to show off his own great agility. It is just so with bounding lambs, and horses at play. As to bees and ants, they are such plodders, we do not know on which side their verdict would be: probably they would be on the side of Mr. Gradgrind, and would have nothing but things of use,—no ornament, or sentiment, or poetry, or other humbug. But with these discreditable exceptions, universal animalhood thinks more of the florid and lovely than of the merely useful.

Come next to the simple untutored savage. If you intend to trade with him you need not carry hogsheads of sugar or barrels of flour. He will thank you more for some beads or bracelets, or rings for his nose, or pendants for his ears. He has his hunger for food appeased, but not his thirst for the beautiful. Give him something showy, bright, glittering. The same desire will be seen in his Squaw; though, poor slave, she rather delights to see her taskmaster look brave than herself beautiful. So it is in all the grades of social life, from the lowest to the highest.

We will not dwell on the fact that we must live that we may live ornamentally, that we must eat or we shall soon cease to admire. This of course is patent, but as soon as the grosser needs are satisfied, we see that all seek for that which is beautiful more than that which is merely useful.

These two are however wedded together, so that though they may be divorced and wend through life their solitary way, they ever tend to come back and join hands, and live a harmonious life again.

We see this in the dress, the house, the garden, the landscape, the useful article.

What man or woman was ever satisfied with mere covering that displayed no taste? The divine song may warn against pride in, and love of dress, telling us that

The sheep and silkworm wore  
That very clothing long before.