

of thought. Her very walls will do it. Most of you know this very well. I appeal to my friend, President Harper. What greater compliment could Chicago have paid to our English universities than to imitate their buildings in structures which recall—in what I was glad to find last week are really no uncongenial surroundings—the stately associations of the college gardens!

We must not expect statesmen—men of action—to be representatives of ideal perfection: none of them ever has been. Cæsar, Cromwell, Bismarck, had many obvious faults. It is high praise for them if they see the thing which has to be done, and can be done in their age, and get that thing done. If they were votaries of abstract perfection, and would not move till that could be secured, they would do nothing at all. Why then should Oxford be discouraged by the fact that the editor of the *Cosmopolitan* holds that Cecil Rhodes “did not propose to send American youths to Oxford to be educated, but American youths to educate Oxford in the ways of a great Republic”? Or again, “Oxford annually puts forth a group of parliamentary mediocrities, of literary jingoes, of political make-shifts, of legislative dilletanti, of conservatives, of opportunists, of men who sweep with the tide, and never put forth a fearless effort on behalf of improved government.” And once more, “Has Oxford,” cries J. B. Walker, “sent out within fifty years a single figure who can be spoken of as having a splendid courage, a high integrity, a clear intelligence, a comprehensive grasp of improved governmental methods, and at