

The Coign of Vantage

things, is freed from the snare of a narrow outlook not so much by variety of information as by that profound insight which separates what is mortal and transient from what is divine and eternal.

It will not be the fault of sensational journalism if, in some directions at least, we are not soon made "superficially omniscient." But of what particular benefit is it to note, as we sip our coffee, that some foul murder has been done, or that a minutely-detailed scandal has ruffled the calm of high social circles? The art of culture partly lies in learning how to forget. Even the paragrapher should be more than a mere pathologist. The large-minded witness will neither be too dainty to face facts as they are, nor too blind to discern their full significance. But he will not revel in the unhealthy, nor set down aught in malice. Perfectly aware that all kinds of deeds are being done around him, he will prefer to speak of life's heroism rather