

While alluding to any effort that we may have made to forward a popular and literary object, I cannot refrain from paying an affectionate and grateful tribute to the memory of another, who ever used his more exalted position to further the cause of social progress, and the public good. One whose illustrious example will ever be a beacon light to guide such feeble efforts as ours, to inspire and to encourage them. He has now passed from the scene of his labors of love, and left England mourning, and England's Queen a widow. It was the one aim of his life to increase among his people culture and refinement, as well as material prosperity. And he found no more admirable instruments to accomplish his noble purposes, than those we employ in our more humble way. There is scarcely a Library in Great Britain that has not been enriched by his munificence. He encouraged by his presence, assistance, or counsel, every literary and scientific association in the Kingdom. And such societies as ours, since they are the greatest sufferers from the loss of that universal benefactor, and noble man, should be the first to join in the feelings of gratitude, that enshrine in the heart of every man and every woman in the British Empire, the sacred memory of Albert the Good.

It may be asked whether our Society, or any of its members, look forward to more lasting results for their efforts than some ephemeral effect upon their fellow-citizens? Whether our objects are purely of a selfish nature, and tending towards individual improvement alone? And it may be answered—that while each member hopes to derive undoubted profit and pleasure,