

But here it was plainly shown how the resources of a nation sometimes develop "over night." All Germany, from the Alps to the Baltic and North Sea responded to the challenge of Napoleon III.; and the campaign culminated, not in a march to Berlin, but in the siege and capture of Paris.

Let us not despise the military system of China. In the veins of her people flows the same blood as in the veins of the progressive Japanese; and, before the foreign forces have left the soil of the Celestial Empire, there may be such a marvellous manifestation of national energy in every domain, as the world witnessed in Japan a few decades ago.

"Patriotism" shows itself further in commemorating victories gained over other nations.

Suppose a man quarrels with his neighbor and wins the lawsuit; what would the people in the community think if he always put out a flag on the anniversary of the day when the lawyers decided in his favor? Would it tend to make the neighbor more friendly disposed towards him? Yet that is exactly what civilized nations do even nowadays. Germany has been always celebrating the anniversary of the battle of "Sedan," by making it a public holiday, with banquets, glowing after-dinner speeches, etc., etc. It is, in fact, quite a general custom to celebrate signal victories in Europe, and, until a few years ago, a salute was annually fired, even in Montreal, from Trafalgar Tower on the anniversary of Nelson's triumph.

A more innocent amusement is to wear badges with our national colors when we go to foreign countries, but it also seems an excrescence of patriotism.

If anyone goes to visit his neighbor he is generally on his good behavior; he will not flaunt his individuality too much in his host's face; he will not expatiate upon the merits of his family or the beauty of his home; but he will enter with readiness on the ideas of his entertainer, bestow praise on his children, admire his library, his pictures, his garden; in short, the well-bred man will be always ready to appreciate the excellent points in his neighbor's surroundings, but he will pass over his friend's shortcomings in silence.

But people don't generally act in this way, when they visit a neighboring country. Nothing there is as good as at home. The social institutions, the manner of living, the character of the people, nothing can stand a comparison with similar things in their own country; and, if their visit is prolonged, and they happen to meet with some people of their own nationality, there will be "patriotic" meetings and they