

and go my way. If, when done, you shall say each to the other, on the morrow, the man spoke truth, his thought is right, his judgment sound, his vision of the future clear, I shall be content. If you say the other thing, I shall regret the verdict, but go my way, grateful to you for audience all the same.

Where the first civilization of the world began, or when, we know not. Once we said, Greece. Later on we said, Egypt. And now all scholars say, beyond Egypt, somewhere. For Egypt evidently was a colony and brought all her wonderful arts with her in ships, from some mother country, whose seat of empire is forever lost from memory of men. But while the origin of civilization is hidden, the course and movement of it for many years are known. Out of the far East it came. From Egypt and Asia to Greece and Rome, thence across Europe and the British Isles, and so across ocean, like a fruitful seed blown over water, and lodged on this Western shore and world. Thus much we know as we know a sure thing. Here, in the soil of this Western world of ours, that seed took root, grew upward and abroad, until our civil institutions, our commerce, our inventions, our development in wealth and numbers, and even our arts and literature, are the wonder of the old world that mothered us. France, with eight hundred years of growth has forty millions of inhabitants. At that point nature has fixed her limit. Her geography can accommodate no more. Germany, circling all her blood within Imperial authority, holds forty millions, and is full to the brim. England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales have thirty-five millions, and out of them, as water from full fountain,