

The dandy, the well-dressed idler, is merely a dry-goods sign, not a true man, therefore not a gentleman, for his passport to "society" circles is not moral worth, honor, or virtue, but dress. A dandy is the shiniest of beings, in general has no sense, and is, as Dr. Holmes says, not good for much.

Superior intellectual culture is not necessarily related to excellence of character. Intellectual capacity, "culture" in society parlance, amounts to little, for it is sometimes found associated with the meanest moral characters, abject servility to those in high places, and arrogance towards the poor and needy. "A handful of good life," says George Herbert, "is worth a bushel of learning." Not that learning and culture are to be despised, but in order that they may attain their highest powers they must be allied to goodness. One may be accomplished in art, literature, and science, and know nothing of honesty, truthfulness, or virtue. Hence such a one is not a gentleman. Mind without heart, intelligence without conduct, cleverness without goodness, are powers only for mischief, and we can admire them only as we admire the dexterity of a pickpocket or the horsemanship of the highwayman.

"No man," says an author, "is bound to be rich or great—no, nor to be wise; but every man is bound to be honest." "An honest man's the noblest work of God," said Alexander Pope. The honest man is not guided by expediency. "Honesty is the best policy," said Ben Franklin, and this aphorism has been lauded as "that good old maxim," "the truth of which is upheld by the daily experience of life." But the truth is, that "the daily experience of life" proves in the great majority of business transactions that honesty is directed only by policy. In the opinion of the writer such a sentiment as being honest from the low motive of policy, is vicious: for he who is honest merely because he thinks it good policy, is not more honest than the rogue who, if he does honest things, does them, not from principle, but from fear of detection and punishment. The man whose purposes, besides, being honest, are inspired by sound principles, and pursued with undeviating adherence to truth, integrity and uprightness, lives on a higher plain. Principle, and not