

clouds that hide the sun when his beneficent beams are needed. It is put into requisition to blow back the rain clouds when floods are imminent, and turn the destructive tide into regions where its wrath will be helpful rather than harmful.

Pity that the season is too far advanced to give the stranger the pleasure of viewing the prize competition of the latest improved mowers, that enter a thousand acre stretch of hay at one corner, and in less time than it would have taken under the old system to ride around the great field, emerge at the other, having in the meantime converted the whole expanse of standing grass into chemically cured baled hay of the first quality, loaded it upon a train of trucks, and started it upon its course to the sheds prepared for its reception. It is not even necessary to hurry round to the opposite side to meet the triumphant harvester. If carefully adjusted ere it is started upon its mission, it will come to rest when its work is accomplished, a patient giant, quiescent, even apathetic, until its services are again in demand. A useful machine, but not one whit in advance of many another implement that is doing its share to make the west the prosperous region it has become.

Triumphs of man's ingenuity are on every hand, proofs of his ascendancy over nature meet the eye at each turn. But the combined wisdom of the nations, the deepest thought of the most cultured mind, has found old father Time too clever to be attacked. Science has not succeeded yet in stretching one minute to the length of two, and so the glories of the west must be left behind and the face turned eastward again.

Not due east, however. Before going back to the old lands, an hour must be spared for a glimpse of the central spot, the heart of this great nation.

Objects of historical interest, relics of the country's infancy, mementos of the great struggles through which it has passed, give to Washington an interest all its own. One does not witness here the progress of the fight against the forces of nature, the swift onrush of trade, or the steady progress of education. It is to the nation as a unit that the eye is directed. The nation's life, its triumphs, even its mistakes, are before us here. No pains have been spared to present to the gaze of the world America as she was and is; to illustrate the breadth of her possessions, the character of her government, her status among the nations.

Her armies are drawn up around the seat of her government, a force strong enough to awaken awe in the breast of the stranger—her war-ships lie conveniently at anchor, ready to guard her coast?

They are there, truly, but not as the nation's safeguards. They tell of the order that has passed away. Their efficiency was their death warrant. Handle cautiously those instruments of destruction. The last time others akin to them were put into use, whole armies were swept from the face of the earth. Man has learned that he must either cease to fight or cease to be. And the love of life is strong.

Yet, warfare is not entirely a thing of the past, only men fight now with brain instead of fire-arm. Supremacy comes to the nation of keenest wit. No, more than ever has it become the guerdon of the purest in heart. Statesmanship has taken the place of military prowess, and still, as of old, to the strong belongeth the spoil.

The soft chiming of a bell—the musical whirr as of wings—a long drawn sigh of mingled satisfaction and regret—a last look back at the land of Columbus—and for the eastern traveller the World's Fair of 1892 is a thing of the past.