


This feeling in man only corresponds to the general action of nature around him. Time is hurrying along ; seasons coming and going ; everything in nature is on the move, and if we would not be left behind we must move too. Who can tell what discoveries the next century may bring before the public ? and who can tell what share we may have in bringing some of them about ? It certainly seems our duty to be ever pressing on, trying to make the most of life. Aim high, is a good watch-word, even though we may fall far short of it ; yet our position in life will be much higher than if our ideal had been less perfect. Failure comes to every lot ; but one may learn by failing, and it is only by such failures and struggles to overcome them that at last the victory is gained.

"On, on, ever to the harvest,  
Sowing either weal or woe ;  
Thus the thought for us to keep,  
As thro' life we onward move  
We shall gather at the harvest what we  
sow."

### ✦Coriolanus.✦

✦ THE eventful life and tragic death of Coriolanus, as pictured by Shakspeare, enlists our strongest sympathies. His hatred of the common people for their fickleness, his great bravery in battle, his dislike of parade, reveal a character such as the world admires. His high-born nature compels people to love his virtues, although steeped in pride. Such men become the truest friends and bitterest enemies. Their contempt for meanness is only balanced by their adoration of right. But they have generally been misunderstood and bad motives attributed to their best endeavors. Such fire-brands heal the sore of festering wrong with a quick and sure remedy.

Coriolanus, is interesting to us, as one of the few who will not become the firm friend of every working man during election times, for his vote. His wish

to stand on his own merits resulted in defeat, as usual. Why a man becomes a good statesman because he doffs his hat to every corporation hireling, is a question hard to solve.

But Coriolanus verifies the adage that "patriotism is the trump card of a scoundrel." Like politicians of the present time, he can work best where his services are paid best. The treatment that our hero received at the hands of his countrymen, however, palliate to some extent, the conduct in delivering them to his enemies. Most people applaud such return for injury, and with such thankless wretches as he had to deal with, we do not know but he took the right course to bring them to their senses. Patriotism is hydra headed, adapting itself to circumstances, as past history teaches.

The common-people in times of excitement are swayed about like grass in the wind. The one who can influence their passions most, is their leader. They are fond of demanding, what they call, "their rights ;" but in times of trouble they melt like snow in mid-summer. Coriolanus, bitterly complains of their fickleness and justly attributes it to the jealousy of their tribunes. This common herd, in one breath, made promises and broke them, and in an evil moment banished their greatest benefactor. A vote is a fearful thing in the hands of those who do not know its importance and it often lays the foundation of their own misery. Shakspeare, has been accused of favoring the patricians, and placing the common people in a false light ; but if he has overshot the mark in the one, he has not in the other. A promise of a stall at the public crib is as effectual now as the promise of corn in Roman days.

The thought which Shakspeare clothes with his wonderful imagination in this play is jealousy. We feel an involuntary disgust for the two tribunes, who pretend to guard so faithfully the liberty of the people ; but exhibit such alarm when they see that another has earned more honor than they. Their deep designs to undermine Coriolanus, the length to which they carry their