

upon individual character and national life. This purpose, however, though common to the three fictions, is worked out in each of them by a different method. 'The Coming Race' is a work of pure fancy, and the satire of it is vague and sportive. The outlines of a definite purpose are more distinctly drawn in 'Chillingly'—a romance which has the source of its effect in a highly-wrought imagination. The humour and pathos of 'Chillingly' are of a kind incompatible with the design of 'The Parisians,' which is a work of dramatised observation. 'Chillingly' is a Romance, 'The Parisians' is a Novel. The subject of 'Chillingly' is psychological; that of 'The Parisians' is social. The author's object in 'Chillingly' being to illustrate the effect of 'modern ideas' upon an individual character, he has confined his narrative to the biography of that one character. Hence the simplicity of plot and small number of *dramatis personæ*; whereby the work gains in height and depth what it loses in breadth of surface. 'The Parisians,' on the contrary, is designed to illustrate the effect of 'modern ideas' upon a whole community. This novel is therefore panoramic in the profusion and variety of figures presented by it to the reader's imagination. No exclusive prominence is vouchsafed to any of these figures. All of them are drawn and coloured with an equal care, but by means of the bold broad touches necessary for their effective presentation on a canvas so large