

But even in this rapid glance we have seen enough to convince us that these are times, in which it is at once a glorious privilege and a profound responsibility to live. A good deal is said about "men for the times;" and there can be no doubt it is the world's great want. It is very natural that we should see more clearly and feel more deeply the demands of our own day than of other times. Yet there never was a time in which good men and true were not wanted. They were needed in Noah's day, when all flesh had corrupted its way. They were needed in Elijah's day, when in the universal idolatry he imagined that he alone remained a witness for the truth. They were needed in Daniel's day, when himself and his brave Hebrew brethren stood alone in resisting the popular follies. They were needed in many a dark hour of the past, when men were compelled to choose either death or disloyalty to conscience. No doubt Queen Elizabeth thought that good and brave men were wanted in her day, when the invincible Armada attempted to crush her island kingdom. And yet there are special qualifications necessary to fit men for usefulness in these times. Men that fulfilled their mission and did their work faithfully and well, in their own day, would scarcely be *en rapport* with these times. See how the art of war has changed! We have rifled cannon, and chassepots, and Enfield rifles, and ironclads, against which the weapons of last century would be utterly unavailing. And so in our social, political, religious and educational work, we want men who are familiar with the advanced methods of moral and intellectual warfare. Yes, we want "men for the times." We want them in the pulpit—men of keen intelligence, broad charity, manly independence, and fervent piety. We want them in our political and judicial offices—men of incorruptible integrity, of broad unsectional views, and unselfish love for their country. And we need, not less than any of these, *Teachers* for the times. It will be readily admitted that it is not every kind of teacher that is equal to the requirements of these times; especially in this country, where we are now laying the foundations of nationhood, and stamping in a high degree the influence of our own character upon the future of our country. It is a truly grand thing to live in such times: to have such opportunities of improvement and usefulness as we possess. They might almost excite the envy of angels. It is said that once in a great naval engagement, as Collingwood brought his ship into action in splendid style, before the rest of the fleet could fall in, he exclaimed "What would Nelson give to be here?" And we might imagine that even a Paul, a Luther, or a Milton, would be willing to quit their tranquil abodes to renew again the glorious warfare in which they acquitted themselves with a bravery that won them immortal re-