

prevalence is indispensable for individual and national well-being; and also among the conditions of industrial success, since, without its aid, industry, knowledge, and skill will be comparatively powerless.

*The Effect of Habit.*—It is not enough to *wish* to grow up into industrious, intelligent, and skilful men, capable of foregoing so much of material indulgence as is indispensable for the due performance of our duty towards others, in the present and in the future. Something more than wishing is required. We must work as well as wish. Every day our efforts are delayed our task is more difficult, our success more doubtful. Men have been aptly described as "creatures of habit." Impulse and habit, sometimes with, but frequently without, reflection at the moment, determine our conduct. We may trace the effects of habit in the careers of both good and bad men. As soon, therefore, as we become capable of learning from our parents and teachers, or recognizing what it is our duty to do, self-discipline should begin—efforts should be made to form our own habits and regulate our own impulses.

*Temptation.*—From the outset we are thrown into a society not entirely inspired with these views and sentiments, and are surrounded by fellow-men, among whom are some ill-disposed—intent upon anything rather than contributing to the well-being of the community of which they are members. We are all, the young particularly, prone to imitate, and to be influenced for good and evil by companionship. Strength of character must be our safeguard against those allurements, blandishments, and seductions, which lead not to happiness, but to perdition.

*Rights of Property, and respect for Laws.*—While most men are engaged in replacing what is consumed, a few strive to obtain by force and fraud

what others produce. Such individuals, disposed to prey on others, cannot be tolerated, hence force is organized to prevent it. The determination of men to resist depredation has given rise to laws, and to officials to administer and enforce them. It is necessary that rules or laws should clearly declare those who are to be held the legal possessors; and, while causes which have produced inequality of possession are often too remote and obscure to be traced, yet there are some causes which are easily traceable, and which are sufficient to reproduce these inequalities, if they could be destroyed. Some men are industrious, skilful, intelligent, and thrifty; others lazy, unskilful, ignorant, and wasteful. To which class shall we look to find the possessor of property, and to which for the destitute? The careers of many of our eminent engineers, architects, surgeons, physicians, lawyers, administrators, contrasted with those of some spendthrifts, enforce the conviction that we must look to the former to find those who are on their way to become possessors of property, and to the latter for those who are on their way to destitution.

The means or the power upon which we rely for our protection against those who would prey upon society is, in many respects, the same in all countries. We may call it the government. Under it are the police or civil force, which controls the conduct of citizen to citizen within the commonwealth, or of subject to subject within the kingdom; and the military and naval forces, which defend the community against aggression from without.

The reasons why rights to property have been conferred are plain. All inducements to useful exertion and abstinence would be taken away if producers felt that they were to be deprived of their wealth, whether by fraud or violence. The law says to