

standing, cannot bear the least severe scrutiny. It is surprising to see that country so great commercially, so morally insignificant,—the population of which have, unfortunately for themselves, in their utter contempt and independence of example, developed in equal ratio their weakness and their power, and in the end, the first stroke of discontent sounded the whole diapason of their weakness. Should the foregoing illustration be better seen by contrast, we can point to another country which as people are becoming more enlightened, becomes more and more the object of universal admiration. The people of this country have left the impress of their mind upon everything which has fallen in the way of being influenced by it, equally great and original in all things which in a scientific or literary way they have dealt with, never led astray by impulse or imagination from the dictates of reason and common sense, this country is essentially great, and the moral worth of its inhabitants has necessarily enough forced them into the position they now occupy as the leaders of European politics. It will be easy to perceive from our remarks above that we have endeavoured to point out how our prejudice against and our prepossession in favor of a country is based upon our estimate of the worth of its National Character: how some countries call forth our warmest admiration, while others excite within us no other emotion than that of pity. If then we form opinions upon the character of other countries, we should recollect that one day an opinion will be entertained about our own, never perhaps while it is merged in the greater of the Mother Country, but when it stands out in its individuality and takes its place in the ranks of "nations character."

It would be well then as ours is merely in the process of formation, that we should attend at the outset to giving it a proper direction, to keep steadily in view the fact that as the individual consistency of character results from a well regulated condition of the moral feeling, so in a state, will national character result from a well regulated condition of the political system. It is impossible to pay too much regard to the materials which are being gathered for the construction of a nation, that we are now collecting these materials no one can deny, and although many may not see the tendency of the times, the fact is none the less true. We are proceeding quietly onwards in the march of Empire, we are gradually outgrowing the swaddling clothes of infancy, and, circumstances have been favorable to us in this respect, that accustomed as we have been to the management of our own affairs, should the eventful day arrive at any time within our lives, the transition from dependency to independency will be borne by us with becoming dignity, the revolu-