

vated and refined tastes, and even pay an exacting attention to the conventionalities of life, and yet be sadly wanting in that moral element which has its foundation only in Christian principle, and which in fact, is more conducive to the permanent prosperity of a nation, than would be all the wealth of the Indies or the learning of the schools.

Not by any means would we be misapprehended as under-valuing wealth ; on the contrary, its possession is greatly to be desired as conferring legitimate advantages and opening numberless sources of enjoyment, beside giving power to benefit others ; but as in the present age and existing state of society, it is in itself considered the passport to honor and power, and by so many is thought the *only* avenue open to distinction, its legitimate value should be understood as a *means* rather than an *end*.

Neither is learning to be lightly esteemed, for the day is long past when ignorance could be deemed the "Mother of devotion," and education is universally acknowledged an essential to the welfare and progress of a people.

But wealth, learning and refinement, may exist without that controlling moral principle which is necessary to restrain the passions and regulate the affections ; and which, in connection with those advantages in individual cases of rare mental endowment, unite to produce the highest type of human character. The cultivation of this ennobling quality tends greatly to the elevation of a people in the scale of nations.