

Macaulay, we must especially admire "the vast capacity of that intellect which, without effort, takes in at once all the domains of science, all the past, the present and the future, all the errors of two thousand years, all the encouraging signs of the passing times, all the bright hopes of the coming age." Bacon has given us, in a few emphatic words, the advantages which men, in or out of public life, derive from literary studies. "Crafty men condemn studies, simple men admire them, *and wise men use them*; for they teach not their own use: that is a wisdom without them, and won by observation. Read not to contradict, nor to believe, but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested. *Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man*: and therefore, if a man write little, he had need have a great memory; if he confer little, have a present wit; and if he read little, have much cunning to seem that he doth not. Histories make men wise, poets witty, the mathematics subtle, natural philosophy deep, morals grave, logic and rhetoric able to contend."

The name of Sir Thomas More must ever be associated with those of the most eminent defenders of the privileges of Parliament; and when we read his life, it is difficult to understand how a man, so well versed in the secrets of the human heart and in the science of practical politics, could ever have framed a system of government like that in Utopia. Sir Walter Raleigh, the courtier, the statesman, the soldier, the explorer and navigator—a remarkable man in a remarkable age—the age of Shakspeare and of Spenser—found solace during a long imprisonment in writing his great work, the History of the World, and was also the author of several poems possessing undoubted merit. James I. of England, who was guilty of no more monstrous crime during a long reign, conspicuous for the exhibition of his vices and weaknesses, than the execution of Sir Walter Raleigh, was himself a very voluminous author, as may be seen from the list of works enumerated in "Royal and Noble Authors," by Horace Walpole; but nobody now-a-days remembers the titles of any of his productions, except, perhaps, his Counterblast against tobacco.

The successor of James, the ill-fated Charles I., was one of the most elegant and forcible writers of his time, as well as an extremely liberal patron of the fine arts. But we pass on to refer to a statesman who occupied a very conspicuous position during his reign and that of his son, the "gay monarch." Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, exemplified forcibly the truth of the maxim, "put not your trust in princes." Those who survey his character by the light of the present, when the passions and jealousies of the times in which he lived have passed away, will acknowledge that, wanting though he may have been in the highest attributes of a statesman, yet he stood far above the corrupt and unprincipled politicians who were too often the favourites of the court. Clarendon's political downfall, fortunately for posterity, enabled him to cultivate historical studies and eventually write the history of the rebellion—a history remarkable for its clear and comprehensive narrative, and its admirable portraiture of character.

Addison must be quoted as a memorable example of a man who