

issued her decrees to the world, then under the control of her own officers.

In the end this system proved defective by refusing citizenship to deserving subjects and by placing in the hands of the soldiers a power which in time was used against Rome and brought about her own destruction. Yet the ideal remains commendable and speaks much for the governing ability of the Roman world.

Accordingly Rome with all her defects and semi-barbarous aggressions inspires the mind with admiration for those prime elements, which, first manifested under her rule, have with her decay grown into the glorious mid-day civilization of the present century. At Rome those elements first appeared and were there demonstrated to be at the basis of modern progress. Her poets, under imperial patronage, sang of the majesty of government and have immortalized her conquerors and legislators, while the prosecution of public works was encouraged and the existing social evils were openly satirized.

Thus, considering the age in which Rome flourished, we are bold to affirm that many of her ideals were noble, and the nearness to which they were approached certainly proves that her rule was not a failure.

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