

against, than was the aristocracy of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Thus was the third social period inaugurated, where wealth became the god, before which the world trembled, and the servile crooked the knee. This is the period, the influence of which has spread here to America, and may rightly be called the "Century of the Almighty Dollar."

"There is an instinctive sense that the whole constitution of property, on its present tenures, is injurious, and its influence on persons deteriorating and degrading; that truly, the only interest for the consideration of the State, is persons,—that the highest end of government is the culture of men."

—EMERSON.