

*eeu* which, so far as I know, is found only in English, and which for reasons of every articulation modifies the preceding *t* into *tch* in sound. At the same time the final *e* has become entirely silent. Thus we have our word "culture."

I think it cannot be disputed that the primary meaning of "culture" is the act—the deliberate and purposeful act—of tillage, the act as contemplated, designed and executed in accordance with the design. "Cultura" is not the same as "cultus," though we often confound them in translation. The first is the act of tillage conceived; the second is the act accomplished. The first word evokes more definitely the scheme of tillage, the second word rather the result of tillage. But our word culture has by a familiar metonymy widened its meaning so as to include with the process the result. In the first—the primitive—sense we speak of the culture of the soil, the processes in which the soil by the labour of the husbandman is fitted to produce the crop desired. But when we speak of the culture of the nineteenth century, not only are we transferring the word from its literal application to the soil and applying it figuratively to society; but in still another way we are leaving its primitive sense. We use it not to indicate the *process* of cultivation by which society has come to be what it is, but to sum up the *results* of the influences of history, of literature, of art and of science, embodied in the aggregate habitual feelings, thoughts and manner of action of men and women in the world.

However used, then, culture means or suggests the processes or the results of husbandry, such intervention of human skill and effect as, acting with and facilitating the operation of nature, leads to the increase or development or amelioration of natural products. It recalls to us those homely but most beautiful industries which bring men into closest contact with the mother heart of nature. The word "culture" itself and all its compounds suggest nature's general forces under the control of human labour, care, skill and foresight.

To-night we are to use the word in a figurative sense. We shall have to consider fields that lie out of the purview of sense, influences other than those of sun and wind and rain, labours and results which are often insufficiently valued, because they belong to the inner world of consciousness investigated only by few. By "culture" in this