

Why should I speak of opportunities for ever fled? Why should I weakly repine, or impotently rage at the inevitable outcome of our past history. I will not do it. But this I will say, that the only means by which we can arrest the decay of commerce, of industry, of national resources, of material prosperity, of national liberty, is by the development of the intelligence, the skill, the self-reliance of our people. And this will I do, and to this I pledge you, my fellows: We will labor as wisely, as diligently as we may, to give to each of our pupils the full possession of that glorious inheritance to which he is born—himself. As far as we may bring it about, he shall leave our instruction master of his hands, master of his intellect, master of his moral impulses, and so a master in the realm of things, and a king in the world of men.

THE PRONUNCIATION OF LATIN.*

By DR. J. C. EATON, MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

It is now little more than a quarter of a century since scholars have turned their attention to the establishment and introduction of the true pronunciation of the classical language of Old Latium. The movement is founded upon the immense progress of recent researches in linguistics, and finds its support in the consciousness that the historic Latin language, with its unbroken tradition of two thousand years, may, through the restoration of its true pronunciation, be invested with a new and living interest, while at the same time it would become a means of communication between the learned. The new era was introduced by the illustrious Corssen, to whose exhaustive work even now reference is seldom made, except to challenge some unwary statement—for the results of his investigations already have become the common heritage of scholars; so truly do the words of the Prince of Poets mark the lot, not only of

* It seems but just for the writer here to remark that, owing to the necessary restrictions of time, on account of the circumstances under which the paper was read, the subject could be treated only in the merest outline, and therefore assumptions, perhaps new to many, were necessarily made which would have required much detailed consideration for their justification. To anyone who would care to familiarize himself with the facts upon which those assumptions are based, we would recommend a patient study of the following works: Corssen, *Ueber Aussprache*, etc. (Leipzig, 1863, p. 1905); Seelmann, *Aussprache des Latein* (Heilbronn, 1886, p. 400)—an excellent compendium, treating the subject from a physiological and historical standpoint in a most thorough manner. The "Summary of Latin Pronunciation," embodied in this paper, was drawn up after a careful study of this work; Roby, *Latin Grammar*, Pt. I.—about 150 pages of which are devoted to pronunciation.