

from the Missouri to the Pacific Ocean, three hundred miles of which are already finished, and in another year it will probably reach the Rocky Mountains. Two new States—Colorado and Nebraska—are about to become members of the Union. Riots at Memphis and New Orleans in which the whites murdered many negroes called out the anathemas of all decent people, and caused Congress to look coldly on the scheme of reconstruction the South favored. The cotton crop has been partially destroyed by drought or overflow, or insects, and the chances for a hard winter at the South are numerous. The American Government are looking after the interests of the American railroads in Mexico. The national debt of the United States is twenty-five hundred and fifty millions, and has been decreased two hundred millions the past year. The prospect of an early liquidation of that debt is good. The revenues of the United States were five hundred and fifty-eight millions; of England about three hundred and fifty millions of dollars. Education, missionary effort, and the diffusion of knowledge have been stimulated, and the line of the charities has been widely attended to. Large gifts from men of wealth have been common. Mr. Peabody increased his gift to the London poor to over a million dollars, and has generously distributed a half million in his native country in benevolence. Mr. Stewart of New York proposes to invest several millions in homes for the poor, and many others have done nobly. Colleges have flourished; trade has been good everywhere; manufactures have been profitable; labor has been well paid; and agricultural products have brought a good price, and money making has been amply successful. Few books of value have been published, but the spawn of useless publications has been large and prolific.

Leaving these minor matters a glance at the great arena of action shows that the vast fields of human organization is actively occupied.

The Russian Government is steadily pursuing its wise ends in the reformation of its schemes of emancipation, and upraising the serfs from their present to a higher level. Italy is fast becoming homogeneous as to government. The Papal States only remain out of the way, and the general expectation is that in a

great time hence the Pope will be shorn of his temporal dominions. The other European nations are vegetating as usual; their wise men are studying the grand problems of life, nature, government and progress, and the dark regions of Africa are as benighted as ever. The great sea of humanity that overflows the dark regions of the world still ebbs and flows with its tides of happiness and misery, as has been the case for the ages past, and bids fair to be for ceaseless ages to come. The great Sahara is fast yielding to the vigor of science, and Artesian wells bringing water to the surface, are gradually converting its stony and sandy into beautiful green oases. But no such good fortune comes yet to the moral Sahara that deface the fair features of society everywhere. Poor, gaunt, and wan, the multitudinous hordes, smitten with disease and the blight of early death, wander forlorn and unpitied by the sons of luxury and waste. And yet there is a brighter day to dawn upon some future generation of these lonely millions, and the song of peace sung at the advent will resound in their ears as tidings of a joy to all people. So mote it be.

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### Don't Stand Still.

If you do you will be run over. Motion, action, progress—these are the words which now fill the vault of heaven with their stirring demands, and make humanity's heart vibrate with a stronger bond. Advance or stand aside; do not block up the way and hinder the career of others; there is too much to do now to allow of inaction anywhere or in any one. *There is something for all to do; the world is becoming more and more crowded; wider in magnitude; closer in interest; more loving and eventful than of old.* Not in deed, of daring, not in the ensanguined field, not in chains and terrors, not in blood, and tears, and gloom, but in the leaping, vivifying, exhilarating impulses of a better birth of the soul. Leader, are you doing your part in this work.

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—Boasting is sometimes out of place. We once heard a man boast of being a bachelor, as was his father before him.