

The spirit grows with its allotted space ;
The mind is narrowed in a narrow sphere.

But however just the pride with which we enter on the task of fashioning out of the savage wilderness of half a continent the provinces and states of the future, history teaches us other lessons. If breadth of mind is coincident with amplitude of territory Russia ought to be the centre of Europe's intellectual life, and England the narrow sphere of bigotry and ignorance. The lamented historian, John Richard Greene, charmed all readers with his "Making of England;" but his fascinating volume suffices to show that it is men not acres that go to the making of great nations. From a little speck on the world's map, lying between the mountains of Moab and the sea, have come the melodies of sacred song, and the inspired lessons that still glow with living power for the regeneration of the world. The land of Hellas and the islands of the Ægean Sea were the nurseries of letters, arts and science; and a still smaller republic in the valley of the Arno stepped into her place, as the Athens of the Middle Ages, and the cradle of the Renaissance. And as for England, the land of Shakespeare and Milton, of Newton, Locke, Adam Smith, Darwin and other epoch-makers of the past and the present, America's genial poet, Oliver Wendell Holmes, looking on the insular cradle of our common race from his own ample domain, exclaims with kindly irony:—

His home! The Western giant smiles,
And twirls the spotty globe to find it;
This little speck the British Isles?
'Tis but a freckle—never mind it!

But it is only to recall the words:—

For Memory blushes at the sneer:
And Ho! our turns with frown defiant;
And Freedom, leaning on her spear,
Laughs louder than the laughing giant.

An islet is a world, she said,
Where glory with its dust has blended;
And Britain keeps her noble dead
Till earth, and sea, and sky are rended.

We inherit the energy of the race that has made of England what she is; with it the heritage of her example, and the lessons which her history teaches. The capacity is ours; let it find wise guidance, as it has ample scope; and what may it not accomplish? Our faith in the life that lies beyond earth's narrow span finds confirmation from the very insignificance of man's highest achievements here, compared with his capacities and aspirations. Yet here is your present field of action, in which you are called to play your part manfully; ever keeping before you that higher life, of which this is but the probationary stage. Let it be vital with deeds, and not with boastful words. Science has come to your aid with appliances undreamt of till now. Philosophy turns aside from abstract speculation to solve the vexed problems of social and political life. With advantages rarely if ever equalled you enter on the inheritance of a virgin soil, with all the grand possibilities of a new era. But the willing hand of the industrious toiler will need the help of the keen intellect and the no less busy brain, if we would not be mere gleaners, loitering in the rear of a progressive age; "reaping where we have not sown, and gathering where we have not strawed."

EDUCATE toward a knowledge of truth, a love of the beautiful, a habit of doing the good, because only through these forms can the self-activity continue to develop progressively in this universe.—*W. T. Harris.*

WE need, back of knowledge, that choice which will guide in its use to the best ends, and in seeking those ends shall subordinate all that is lower in man to that which is highest.—*Mark Hopkins.*