

gift of speech. On the other hand, there are those who are masters of all the forms of eloquence without its soul; and there are others who can fascinate even the most listless and indifferent with their brilliancy, their voices echoing with the soft, sweet melody of nature, and their sentiments mating with the untarnished essences of Heaven.

Culture and good breeding inculcate in the heart of man a spirit of sociability. If we choose to grow about our "half acre" an impregnable hedge of thorns, we must be contented to live secluded from pleasant contact with our neighbors. We must not expect the warm rays of friendship to fall upon us and nourish into bloom and sweet fragrance the flowers of respect, esteem and love. If we sow the tares of idleness, and the weeds of selfishness, we must not expect a harvest differing in kind. Men do not gather roses of brambles nor figs of thistles. "As ye sow, so shall ye reap." It is a pleasant thought, then, to know that our harvests are subject to our volition. Therein lies the difference between the man who plants in the rank soil and he who cultivates well his earth. The one will live to see his plands miscarry, as by some irregularity of nature. The other will experience no such vicissitudes. If we sow the thrifty seeds of honesty, charity and love, none of those conquering elements of nature can destroy our harvest—no heat that ever parched and scorched the barren desert, no cold that may ever lock up the mad, wild waves of the ocean, no flood that may ever pour its raging wrath into the soothing bosom of the sapphire sea. The present is our seed time; the future will witness our harvest.

We have only to study those forces underlying the great events of history to analyze the causes that have made some men greater, grander and more highly esteemed than others.

In each and every instance, the effect follows a cause and like effects are produced and reproduced yesterday, today and forever.

Those strong characters who have made the history of