
THE POTENCY OF IDEAS

Ideas mould the destiny of nations and write their characters on the countenance of man.

He who gives the world ideas, helps to make its history; and the thoughts that occupy the mind of the individual shape its career. Wealth, power and office are all the product of ideas.

The emancipation of the colored race and the consequent elevation of manhood was the harvest grown from preaching liberty during the last century.

The fierce commercialism that is now ripening, and seeking to re-enthroned brute force, is the product of the ideas that were sown some fifty years ago, when little else was talked of but the developing of the country and the making of money.

This commercialism is pulling down great mottoes and sneering at all high standards.

The Cost of Something for Nothing

Having no lofty sentiment, it is the enemy of liberty. It is turning our faces from the sun and erecting altars to Mammon.

The men who are following this false light will become hard and cold and sordid in their mad struggle for wealth. No matter how great the measure of their success, they will have nothing worth having if they get all.

But while commercialism is running riot at the top, a new order of thought is growing up at the bottom. Both Europe and America are producing a higher order of ideas that breathe the spirit of human brotherhood and promise a nobler civilization for man.

A new literature, that is the harbinger of a better time, is fast enveloping the earth; and the men who imbibe this spirit, and labor to elevate the race, will be the great men of the future.