

Influence of the study of history on ambition.

Ambition is a principle in human nature, so interwoven with the very vitals of action, and of a texture so complicate, that nature itself must ~~not~~ be dissolved before it will cease to be, and yet, it may do little more than give signs of life, or at most exhibit itself a feature in embryo, until brought to view by agents more attractive and more powerful than are merely to be found within the contracted limits of our own personal observation.

In perusing the page of ancient history, events that have long since transpired, are again recalled. Illustrious characters are presented for imitation, whose merits together with their noble achievements are

painted in colors the brightness of
which is equalled only by the sun in
the meridian of his glory.

In the great drama of man is seen
a Napoleon whose widely extended
banner stretches its broad wings over
all France, and his sword flashing
vivid lightnings to foreign nations
finds a equal only in its terror.

Who that reads the history of the
battles fought and victories won by
this mighty man of man does not
feel a glow of ardent kindling in
his bosom, which at length bursts
into a flame to become a conqueror
too? — But if we come to our
own country and find a man, a
warrior and a conqueror whose
military glory men have and ven-
ture to predict never will suffer
in comparison with that of any
man who has borne a conqueror's
sword. His name was and still

is Washington. He fixed it an-
nounced on the pages of modern his-
tory with that menence which his
character - justly demands and its
memory will forever live in the
bosom of every American citizen
and will be perpetuated to the re-
motest ages of ~~posterity~~. The ambi-
tion of his contemporaries was ex-
cited by him, ours are here and
near his history and see him by
the eye of the mind marshalling his
force and encouraging them to the
onset is excited, and by the en-
chanting picture we seem almost
to imagine ourselves under arms in
the defence midst of glittering swords
and sparkling bayonets in the de-
fence of our countries liberties.

But one time from series of ages
for homelands dear to a country -
may be her sons of valor, their
service in the field of battle will
never be demanded but by

some money cause no rose orig-
inal is sin.

None among the fruits of lit-
erature. The manner in the intellec-
tual pursuit seen at Newton a
Franklin and a Kepler, on who as
bright luminous daily shine
upon the path - many of science
with an offspring far surpassing
all description. Their names live
immortal in the pulpits of the
world, and whose contemplation
excites an ambition in the stu-
dent's heart which would al-
most induce him to quit earth
and dwell among the stars.

With how many magnificent men
and bright luminaries these persons
are by their history to bespangle
the canopy of the new heavens and
they have discovered, having purified
the mist which had long sep-
arated earth and sky, and
how many comets flights are

to be unwearyed by these luminaries, and their paths animated by delineations for the increase of knowledge to this generation, this is yet to show.

But we have something still more important on which demands attention - we come to sacred history, and here let us advance with cautious steps for we tread on holy ground. The ambition excited by the study of this history to correspond with the dignity of the subject, must bear the impress of a more noble impress than that of man or of science - it must be something higher it must be a holy ambition.

When scanning these sacred pages how many hearts have throbbled under a sense of their non-compliance with the requisitions of the gospel and have

resolved on obedience to it
sacred mandates influenced by
a better principle than the am-
bition first described. Others seek
engaged in the study of the same
nearly the blessings of a previous
complainer and as it kindles
a glow of heavenly flame exkin-
dles within the bosom which
makes the soul resolve on a better
one to its sacred mandates in-
fluenced by a better principle
than the ambition first described
and as it is kindled a glow of
heavenly flame exkin-
dles within the bosom which makes the soul re-
solve on a new appeal to its
Divine Redeemer and the standard
of purity is raised higher and still
higher until it reaches unto pe-
rfection. — Men have influenced
by the study of this history and
have gone through the earth

as flaming heralds of salvation
and the excitement is still to in-
crease until this globe be traversed
from pole and from the
rising to the setting sun and the
voice be proclaimed the kingdoms
of this world are become the
kingdoms of our Lord.

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