

Charles Kingsley on America

The author of "Two Years Ago" was the regard of Americans, and the... Kingsley's sympathy with the cause of right and of justice.

It was plain what the author of "Two Years Ago" meant when he spoke of the evils of slavery, and set forth the noble greatness of the man who was willing to sacrifice his life of ease and popularity...

It is not now review the part of "Two Years Ago" where these questions are discussed, he will understand why all who had read the book, and beheld the gathering darkness that slavery was to bring to our beloved country...

We all know that Cambridge pins its faith of America on the London Times; and Cambridge knows just as much of American affairs as the Times knows.

What has brought this beloved teacher of the people to take sides against their cause? Has the London Times greater power than an individual's intuitive sense of right?

Mental Epidemics.

The spread of certain abnormal conditions of the mind, from one individual through a community, and perhaps even a country, creating marvelous physical and psychological effects...

At first the fever attacked those who visited the tomb, but afterwards a little earth brought from the holy spot was sufficient to work miracles.

This insensibility to physical suffering was an uncommon condition, and it always represented to the people a possession of the devil or a wonderful spiritual enlightenment.

In the year 1760 a religious sect arose in this country called Jumpers. They were subject to convulsions, which spread from one to another.

We know well that the easy answer is, imposture, deceit, &c.; but not so say the chroniclers of the time. Opposers and believers testify to the seeming miracles, and good evidence is given that the wonderful phenomena occurred.

What has brought this beloved teacher of the people to take sides against their cause? Has the London Times greater power than an individual's intuitive sense of right?

Spiritualism in Washington.

EDITOR HERALD OF PROGRESS: Whoever gives the subject a moment's thought, will readily see that Washington, for clearly obvious reasons, is naturally the poorest possible place for the spread, development, and acceptance of the facts and philosophy of the ism-Spiritual.

Just now we have with us, very opportunely, that most versatile and successful wonder-worker, Mr. Charles H. Foster, whose many-sided phases of rare mediumship are being daily sought after and constantly exercised, in strengthening the faith of the wavering, removing the fears of the doubtful, convincing and converting the disbeliever, and in demonstrating to the skeptical world generally overwhelming evidence, through himself, of the reality of spirit-power and spirit-presence.

He tried to him for his... the wish of the writer who has been benefited and blessed by his ministrations...

Friends from abroad, I believe, are engaged, and we soon expect to be favored by the presence of Brothers Willis, Cooley, and others.

WASHINGTON, D. C. Feb. 12.

Language—Words.

Whence came all the words and phrases by which we convey our thought to others? Who has not asked, and been gratified at finding, by some analogy in sound, that most words are phrases—compounds—and convey their meaning in themselves.

We will instance some of the most curious from the book before us. Sycophant has a bit of Greek history put up in its composition. Sycophant means figs, and the word alludes to persons informing on individuals exporting figs from Attica.

Mara was a Finland elf, who in night-sleep came with horrid visitations to men; hence the word Nightmare. Mara has its poetry within itself. The Gothic word Merga signified to dissipate, to disperse.

Endowment was the title of the grist, mola, signifying mill. Preposterous is pro and postero, or having that before which ought to come after.

It is very pleasant, sometimes, to know the signification of a Christian name. Alfred is all-peace; Edward, one who guards his oath; Robert, one disposed to rest; William, a golden helmet; Theodore, gift of God; Eleanor, God is my light.

The causes of that marvelous identity we call the English Language lie deep in the manifold influences that have made the English Nation. The history of a language is measurable only in the terms of all the factors that have shaped a people's life.

The heart of our language is Anglo-Saxon. This is the spine on which the structure of our speech is hung. And yet had the Saxon been left to itself, it never could have grown into the English tongue.

revolution, the Norman Conquest—a conquest that has been made the theme of much sentimental twaddle, but which was, no doubt, precisely the best thing that could have happened.

Of course the English Language must take on new powers in America. And here we are favored by the genius of this grand and noble language, which, more than all others, lends itself, plastic and willing, to the molding power of new formative influences.

For the Herald of Progress.

"Eliza Woodson," and "Woman and her Era."

MY DEAR HERALD: I have just risen from a perusal of "Eliza Woodson" with gratification of the highest order. Taking it up with a prejudice engendered by too nauseous doses of many works of apparently the same class, I was charmed to find myself in a sincere, earnest atmosphere, where no weak sentimentalism or unreal views of life were inculcated.

There is fire and the ring of true metal in every line, and we trust that more than one earnest, thoughtful nature, aspiring to some higher and better expression of the life she is conscious is awaking within her, may take courage by imbibing from this pure spring of living waters which a woman's hand has unsealed.

Do you not think it somewhat suggestive—these works produced by woman and on woman? Take, for example, Mrs. Browning's glowing, impassioned inspiration, culminating in "Aurora Leigh," the greatest poem of today.

And now that Margaret Fuller has passed to the sphere above, ere she had evolved the revelations of woman's nature, as fragmentarily foreshadowed in her "Women of the Nineteenth Century," another has stepped forward, and it seems, is about to give us the result of intuition, thought, culture, and experience.

And Woman must be her own savior, her true revelator. Man can only understand her true nature, as, rising quietly and gently to her own supreme height of being, she translates to the world her capabilities and position, which have hitherto been written in hieroglyphs, and so been most bunglingly misread.

All hail, then, to our fellow-helpers and pioneers, not in telling what we may do, but in doing themselves, clearing the underbrush and letting in light from above on the tangled, luxuriant growth, needing pruning and training, but graceful, elastic, and strong!

Tennyson and Bright.

Mr. Conway writes thus to the Commonwealth: "There is no doubt that Mr. Tennyson sympathizes with the cause of the North as against that of the South. I have heard him, however, speak of America much as Mr. Emerson in his lecture before the Fraternity concerning England."

For the Herald of Progress. Studio Sketches.

BY ANGELO. NUMBER TWO.

The Artists' Reception at Dodworth's, Fifth Avenue, on the evening of the 24th ult., was quite a brilliant affair. The gay assemblage of smiling beauties provided by good old Mother Nature, and the many pictures displayed by the artists, left an impression that lingers long in the memory.

The most noticeable picture of the exhibition was Colman's "Alhambra," full of glowing sunlight, a remarkable brilliancy of color and characterized by its fine artistic treatment generally. Clinton Ogilvie's "Among the Shawangunks" is a beautiful composition, very skillfully treated.

The heroine was no beautiful damsel, nurtured by loving friends, or petted by some paragon of immaculate manhood, who always stands behind the scenes ready to lend a helping hand, as in the "Wide, Wide World," and other similar productions, but a faithful autographer of a struggle for truth and knowledge which should be furnished to the child as freely as the air it breathes.

There is fire and the ring of true metal in every line, and we trust that more than one earnest, thoughtful nature, aspiring to some higher and better expression of the life she is conscious is awaking within her, may take courage by imbibing from this pure spring of living waters which a woman's hand has unsealed.

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