

Ambition



Ambition.

Definition of
Ambition

The word ambition, by popular use has come to have an extended application. The original Latin word "ambitio" is from a verb signifying to go about, and, we are told, had its origin in the practice of the Roman candidates for office, who went about the city to solicit votes. The practice of these ancient politicians may be still in vogue, in some parts of the world, yet the word itself has been transferred from the act of such men to the desire; so that who so ever desires office, power, wealth or renown, with any considerable intensity, is styled

Ambition

The word ambition, for
perhaps we have to have
an extended application. The
original Latin word ambire
is from a verb signifying
to go about, and the
word has its origin in the
practice of the Roman
states for office. Ambire
about the city to solicit
votes. The practice of this
ancient politician may be
still in vogue, in some parts
of the world, yet the word
itself has been transferred
from the act of seeking
the office; so that
now states office, private
wealth or reputation, with
ambition, is styled

Ambition
with

Differences in
degree.
- in kind.

Compared to
Choler

Ambitious. I the find am-
bition distinguished by dif-
ferences in degree and also
by differences in kind. Lord
Bacon makes the distinction
in degree when he compares
it to "Choler which (he says)
"is a humor, that maketh men
"active, earnest, full of alacrity
"and stirring, if it be not stop-
"ped; but if it be stopped, and
"cannot have its way it becometh
"acrid (ie. hot and fiery) and
"thereby malign and venomous".
Such epithets as proper
and improper, noble and ig-
noble, generous and mean, ap-
plied to ambition, mark a
distinction in kind.

In the lower degrees
of its exercise, Ambition is
but the natural desire to

exel: but when indulged and fed, and then too late restrained, it exhibits all the perturbation and precipitancy of a passion.

Now since office.

Power the ob-
ject of ambition

position, wealth and learn-
ing are accustomed to throw
their offerings into the lap of
power, or in other words
since power usually attracts,
~~and~~ controls and cherishes
these like servants or obedient-
children, we may with pro-
priety fix the eye on power
as the ultimate, if not the
constant object of the ambition
of men.

Capable of reg-
ulation

As a simple de-
sire, a gift of nature, ambi-
tion is capable of regulation
and direction. We will first
contemplate this aspect of the

explained in fact: hope
that not only was, but this
rehearsed, it exhibits all
the presentation and for
them of a passion.
How since offer.
-position, wealth and
and are concerned to throw
them offerings into the lap of
power, or in other words
shall power usually attract,
and controls and character
like like servants or obedient
children, and more with pro-
posed for the end or power
as the ultimate, if not the
constant object of the ambition
of man. As a simple de-
sire, a gift of nature, which
man is capable of regulation
and direction. It will not
be so simple this aspect of the

power and
ambition

ambition
power

Subject, and endeavor to portray this desire of power in its incipiency, when in childhood and youth its operations are not disguised.

Ambition
traced in
Childhood,
Youth, &c.

In the nursery, if ^{you} notice little children at play, some are always striving for the mastery. They are trying to outclimb, out-run and out-jump each other.

They coax, tease, cry, complain, appeal to their parents and sometimes use deceit, to gain little accessions to power.

Rash-checked boys exhibit this desire at their play parties, and street-gatherings. You catch from them such remarks as these: "My father knows best." "My father has the best horse", the best dog, wagon, plough or other article of use. You often hear them

pertinaciously setting forth their
 own acquirements and boasting
 of their own possessions, as "I
 am the best at ball, the swiftest
"runner", the quickest-scholar,"
 or "I have the nicest-skates, the
"largest-marbles, the finest-sled"
 or the prettiest-coat. The desire
 of their little hearts is, first, actu-
 ally to have the things as
 they represent them; it is but
 a step farther to fancy that
 they have them, or at least
 to strive to obtain what will
 gratify their desire. This de-
 sire, in one way or another,
 is quite often fostered in the
 child by others, (for ^{generally} example) by
parents and teachers. He is
 taught to emulate every com-
 panion who is in advance
 of him. He is in some families

of their own families, as
the best of all, the highest
the quickest of them -
or have the most of the
largest number, the finest
of the best of the best
of their little hearts, a few
only to have the things as
they represent them; it is but
a little further to know that
they have them, or at least
to know to obtain what will
justify their claim. This is
the one way or another,
is quite often followed in the
world for others, for example
parents and children. It is
hard to make them even
know who is in existence
of him. He is in some families

increasingly told to notice
 the desirable smartness and
 good behaviour of some ex-
 emplary play-mate. He is
 urged and stimulated with
 presents and with praise —
 Physically he is brought by
 inward and outward impul-
 sions to gain power over his
 muscles, his organs of speech,
 his playthings and his pet-
 animals. After this advance,
 he desires and strives for the
 more important subjection and
 control of his companions.
 In fact, he drives them two by
 two at horse, he organizes his
 little friends and exercises them
 in the different departments of
 men's work in miniature, accord-
 ing as such work may fall
 under his observation.

Ambition
grows

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I As the mind and body grow, this desire grows too, and prompts the possessor to seek with more or less energy to bring into subjection the bodies and minds of others. In Christian Communities, where a vital religion makes itself felt, this desire of power is very much modified by a strong infusion of counter-acting motives and in Communities not Christian there are generally natural qualities operating, such as affection, good nature and ^{well-meaning} friendship which hinder the early desire from hastily becoming a strong passion.

Its moral char-
acter.

I In the mere desire of power, I can see nothing virtuous or vicious.

Ambition trac-
ed in active
minds

Suppose, now, a boy discovers that he can command his mind with comparative ease, that he seldom fails to equal or surpass

As the mind grows
 grows, this sense grows too and
 through the process to look into
 more or less deeply to know the
 subjective the body and mind
 of others. In Christian Down
 omities, where a great religion
 makes itself felt, the sense of
 power is very much increased
 by a strong infusion of common
 religious matters and in common
 to most Christian there are generally
 rational qualities of spiritual things
 affecting, good nature and friendship
 which under the body come from
 heartily becoming a thing of reason.
 I see the more sense of power
 from the natural powers of reason
 to suppress the body's desires
 that he can command his mind
 with comparative ease, that he bel-
 lies to equal or surpass

Christian
 Down

Christian
 Down

Christian
 Down

his schoolfellows in their various
 trials of intellectual strength; sup-
 pose in his College studies he never
 ceases to gain the ascendancy: he
 is quick at letters, accurate in ac-
 counts, a ready writer and an en-
 gaging speaker. — Again suppose
 he enters upon the duty or profes-
 sion ^{of his life} with similar assiduity and
 untiring energy, and success attends
 him, how would a wise father ^{friend}
 counsel him? Would he advise
 him to curb his zeal and cease such
 extraordinary efforts? Would he say,
 "be satisfied with present attainments,
 seek only a livelihood and a medium
 position of respectability"? By no
 means. He would ^{rather} say to him, "God
 has given you the elements of
 greatness; use them". "Your desire
 for power and its ^{large} attendants is not
 wrong, unless there be in you a

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Ambition in-
sincere unless
stimulated
by wrong
motives

"wrong motive, stimulating and
"pampering that desire into morbid-
"ate, morbid action. The Scripture
"requires you to covet the best gifts."

When a man has plenty of good
seed to sow, he must seek a large and
proper field to sow it in, and ~~there~~ from
it he is assured of an abundant
harvest. At first-glance it may
seem unwise to exhibit a conscious-
ness of ability; that is, to claim the
possession of this good seed. But
it is not so, since man is held ac-
countable for the very talents com-
mitted to him and in exact accord-
ance with the measure of them.

Young men
motives appar-
ent.

I If a man's motives be right,
the power he gains over mind and
over matter will be made to conduce
to the welfare of his fellow-man,
and to the glory of his beneficent
Maker. The young man's

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and particularly, stimulating and
-instilling into these little creatures
the desire for the better.
"I have seen the best of you"
other a man has plenty of good
and to say, he must be a good man
proper first to have it in, and then
it is a matter of an abundant
-hand. At first place of many
-then, it is to exhibit a constant
-ness of ability, that is to show the
-fraternal of that good deed. But
-it is not to show them a bad one
-countable for the very talent given
-willing to him and in that we could
-and with the measure of them
-I of a mind, and it is right,
-the power we have over mind and
-every matter will be made to conduct
-to the welfare of his fellow-man,
-and to the glory of his benefactor.
-The power of mind.

in mind
-instilling
-the desire
-for the better
-I have seen
-the best of you
-other a man
-has plenty of
-good and to
-say, he must
-be a good man
-proper first
-to have it in
-and then it
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-of an abundant
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-ness of ability
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-of that good
-deed. But it
-is not to show
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-to him and in
-that we could
-and with the
-measure of them
-I of a mind
-and it is right
-the power we
-have over mind
-and every matter
-will be made
-to conduct to
-the welfare of
-his fellow-man
-and to the glory
-of his benefactor
-The power of
-mind.

the power
-of mind

Motive is seldom obscure. His
 heart's wish is apt to appear, so
 that practically the character ~~takes~~
~~its bias~~ having taking its bias
 at an early period is pronounced
 upon by companions, as good
 or bad, as fraught with noble
 or ignoble motives, as endued
 with a lofty or a selfish am-
 bition. If the uppermost
 motive of the soul, perhaps I
 had better say, the undermost,
 the underlying motive is to bless
 man and honor God - the pos-
 sessor of such a soul, is walking
 in the path of duty, and is not
 likely to fail in any of his un-
 dertakings. His struggle will al-
 ways be upward whatever may
 be his position in life. For
 if a large place be denied him,
 if the responsible and arduous duty

of marshalling large forces in array against the hosts of Satan be withheld from him he will still have, and be contented with, a subordinate sphere. If there be not even a little paucity for him to control as Captain or Corporal, there will exist abundant and remunerative service for him in the capacity of a private soldier. The very humblest of mortals, who expects salvation thro' Christ, has a wonderful, a momentous conflict to engage in, no less than that of discovering, overcoming and expelling secret enemies, strongly entrenched in his own heart.

It is a matter of experience, and now proverbial, that he makes the best General, who, "ceteris paribus" understands by practical knowledge the duties of a private soldier: so

Bloom for
Ambition
even in the
humblest.

of maintaining large forces in an
 any against the hope of being
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 a subordinate sphere. If there
 be not even a little power for
 him to exercise as captain or
 corporal, there will exist a
 but one administrative service for
 him in the capacity of a private
 soldier. The very thought of this
 is, who expects education that will
 be a wonderful, a magnificent
 enough to engage in, and tell
 that that of this country, even now
 we are expelling great numbers
 of our best men in our heart.
 It is a matter of experience
 and has proved that the method
 the best general, who, "every body"
 understands and practical knowledge
 the duties of a private soldier: he

to be
 in the
 in the
 in the

is he the best-fitted to lead in every work of ennobling man and honoring his God, who has been himself brought into the ranks to fight for any truth he may desire to extend; for, in this way, he learns the ability ~~of~~ and fitness of his co-workers, and, what is better, he ^{to know} learns himself.

Since all men are not gifted, let us dwell for a few moments on this point. What are the counsels of wisdom, for those of us who compose the bulk of mankind? ~~for those~~ who lay claim to nothing extraordinary? Shall we keep our eyes on the ground, and never aim above a mediocrity? It is not necessary. It is to us a cheering fact that gifts are variously distributed. The political leader might fail in trade — the great General make his friends blush for him on ~~his~~ ^{his} account of attempts in political arenas, his frank, mandatory

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ways lack adaptation to the niceties of wine-pulling — he is not well versed in the strategy of the canvass —

Orators and poets have little taste for the mechanic arts — the extensive merchant, possessed of business smartness, of admirable tact and forecast might be completely incapable of designing or constructing his house ^{in which} he dwells ~~in~~.

Mathematics, philosophy, sculpture, painting, architecture, strategy, commerce — all the thousand and one sciences and arts have had and will continue to have their successful votaries: and it is like doubting the special care of the all-wise Ruler of events to suppose that these votaries would have met with equal success in different pursuits. At any rate, is it not a consoling reflection that all men have not equal capacities for all things — What man is there who has not, at times, undertaken some

project out of his line and been humiliated at a failure. If this has been his experience he would readily confess that all men have not equal genius for all things.

Well - what then? The practical conclusion is, if we cannot do one thing creditably, we are encouraged to try another.

Every man's standard may be high. The Scripture demands that he aim even at perfection in his strife for heavenly things. The same principle applies to the whole sum of life's duties and labors.

" Up and onward! toward the east.

" Green oases we shall find, -

" Streams that rise from higher sources

" Than the pools we leave behind.

" Life has import - more inspiring.

" Than the fancies of our youth,

" It has hopes as high as heaven,

" It has labor, it has truth."

- "It has sorrows that may be righted,
- " It has deeds that may be done,
- " Its great battles are unfought,
- " Its great triumphs are unwon.

Sometimes
Unhappiness
the result
of ambition

The great source of unhappiness attributable to ambition does not lie in the aspiration of the soul for higher things, in fact the mistake is made of not aspiring high enough but pursuing such things as power, wealth and fame as an end in themselves, whereas they should be embraced and used as a means to the highest possible attainment.

When proper

I believe the true object of every soul to be to give glory and honor to God.

This object, however clearly and singly kept in view never hinders, but on the contrary promotes a disposition to yield in whatever sphere Providence has placed his earthly creature.

If a man choose the

Law, duty demands that he be a thorough lawyer - if called to the ministry, he should carefully seek his field and zealously use all the ability and grace imparted to him.

If a man is a merchant, let him be a good merchant, and, if possible, a great one. The only thing never to be forgotten is the object, the proper object of his life; this object is always in perfect keeping with his being useful.

— Grant him first to his family, to his neighbor, to his country, to his world, to his generation. Then, however his labor and influence may be apportioned, they must be for the glory of God.

The tradesman - the farmer - the mechanic, ^{and other workers} should strive to excel in their respective callings - in so doing no rights are infringed and there need be no clashing of interests, but a cheerful and healthful competition.

When useful

Ambition as a desire of power, is often intensely useful to mankind in the results it accomplishes. This is true even when it is paralyzing the moral character -

It best strength in the child; it fires the youth with elastic vigor; it feeds the life of manhood and props up the tottering terments of age.

It energizes communities, fosters commerce, peoples new countries and everywhere tends to multiply the conveniences and comforts of this life. In this aspect, ambition is a grand principle, operating in individuals and in masses for progress.

When progressive

These really good results are secured in spite of the fact that the majority of men are selfish; the ultimate object or motive wrong. How much more a thousand fold might be accomplished if all men or the majority of men had the true aim.

We cannot, of course, expect such perfection in this world till the millennium, yet we

have, even in our own history, many a noble example of pure and disinterested men, whose course was always onward and upward.

Washington

~~George~~ Washington, for example, kept the true welfare of his countryman and the fear of his God ever in the forefront of his mind. Modest and retiring, as he was, he always aimed to excel. This we notice in his physical and mental training, in his civil and military exercises, in his private and public duties. Perhaps no other man, unless it be our second Washington, Abraham Lincoln, could better illustrate my idea of a laudable ambition. Would that our imitations of Washington were more like him, whose desire for eminence was always made subordinate to his sense of duty. Had this been the character of our statesmen and our rulers we would not have been called upon

Lincoln

mean, even in our history, many
 a single example of pure and disinterested
 men, whose names were always associated
 and honored.

~~These men~~ ~~are~~ ~~examples~~

right the very history of the country
 and the life of the people in the past
 most of the world. It is not only
 history, as it is, but it is also a
 history of the people in the present.

and the history of the country, in the past and
 history of the people, in the present and future.
 history of the people, in the past, present, and future.

in our history of the country, in the past, present, and future.
 history of the people, in the past, present, and future.

of the people, in the past, present, and future.

of the people, in the past, present, and future.

of the people, in the past, present, and future.

of the people, in the past, present, and future.

of the people, in the past, present, and future.

of the people, in the past, present, and future.

of the people, in the past, present, and future.

to suffer ^{such loss} as we have, in blood and in treasure, in order to preserve and perpetuate the glory and integrity of the Republic he gave us.

Erving

Amongst our authors I should select Washington Erving as my best example of a proper ambition. From his numerous obituary notices I clipped the following from a newspaper just after his death: "The venerable and illustrious Erving, the most distinguished of American authors, the genial, gifted, glorious old Geoffrey Chaucer has laid aside his pen and sleeps with his fathers. Mr. Erving was one of the most amiable and gentle of men: a man of exceeding modesty, never willing to set forth his own pretensions, and leaving to the public the care of his literary reputation."

This is a picture for us to study, a character to love and to imitate. No author ever had a higher aim than he, and none ever more assiduously devoted a

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to suffer the same, in those cases
in which we are in danger of
losing the pleasure and interest of the
game.

There is a danger of losing the
pleasure and interest of the
game, in those cases in which we
are in danger of losing the
pleasure and interest of the
game. The danger is that we
shall lose the pleasure and
interest of the game, in those
cases in which we are in danger
of losing the pleasure and interest
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and interest of the game.

lifetime to his fellowmen. He has charmed thousands into the circle of his influence and blessed them with his genial spirit. The impulse of his soul was an ambition to do well. As in name, so in character, in influence, in aspiration, is there a wonderful blending in Washington and Irving. The association is a happy one. The soldier and statesman linked forever with the faithful historian ~~through~~ ⁱⁿ whose mirror we catch glimpses of two similar noble spirits.

II

Pursuit of
power for
its own
sake.

Now let us turn to another aspect of this subject. Webster says "Ambition denotes, 'more commonly, inordinate desire of power or eminence. Often accompanied with the 'use of illegal means to obtain the object'."

All persons, who are pursuing power merely for its own sake, just to gratify the desire that is urging them forward, are ambitious in the bad sense of the term.

Craving
and dis-
content.

If they are checked by the law and social usage from the use of illegal means, it gives them discomfort, amounting sometimes to self torture, something like a restive horse, fretting and foaming against the hand of his master. This sort of an ambitious spirit often confines itself to wishes and longings, and produces a foolish discontent, which the following lines will aptly illustrate:

A man in his carriage was riding along,
A gaily dressed wife by his side;
In satin and lace, she looked like a queen,
And he like a king by her side.

"A wood Sawyer stood on the shelf as they passed,
The carriage and couple he eyed;
And he said as he worked with his saw on a log,
"I wish I was rich and could ride".

"The man in the carriage remarked to his wife,
"One thing I would give, if I could.
"I'd give all my wealth, for the strength ^{healthy} and the
"Of the man that saws the wood".

" A pretty, young maid, with a bundle of work,
 " Whose face, as the morning was fair
 " Went tripping along with a smile of delight
 " While humming a love-breathing air.
 " She looked on the carriage, the lady she saw,
 " Dressed in apparel so fine,
 " And she said, in a whisper, ^{heart-} "Wish from my
 " 'Those satin and laces were mine!'
 " The lady looked out on the maid with her work,
 " So fair in her calico dress,
 " And said, "I'd relinquish possessions and wealth
 " Her beauty and youth to possess.
 " Thus in this world, whatever our lot
 " Our mind and our time we employ,
 " In longing and sighing for what we have not.
 " ~~ungrateful for what we enjoy~~ But in the main, inord-

inate ambition does not confine itself to
 fretfulness and longings after what is out
 of reach. It is deceptive to the young as a
 bank of quick sand; by sure and slow degrees
 the victim sinks till his conscience is

Effect of
 ambition
 upon the
 conscience
 & morals.

22

I put it down with a bundle of work
his own program as early as possible
that night alone with a smile of delight
his painting and a permanent smile
and he looked at the canvas, the lady the son
known in advance as being
and she said in a whisper, "I wish I could
be in the room and see what was going on"
The lady looked out at the man with interest
to look at her sister's dress
and said, "It is a beautiful picture and worth
the trouble and effort to make it"
"This is the most beautiful picture I have
seen and our time was well spent"
"I was just looking for what I saw out"
"I am sure it is the most beautiful picture I have
seen and our time was well spent"
in the picture that was not enough to
look at the picture and the picture was
of such a kind that it was not enough to
look at the picture and the picture was
the picture that was not enough to

the picture that was not enough to
look at the picture and the picture was
of such a kind that it was not enough to
look at the picture and the picture was

Assured and his ~~conscience~~ ^{moral} overwhelmed by this passion. You notice the warm-hearted and confiding boy - he becomes the fast and sceptical youth - smooth-tongued and politic at middle-age - hard headed, hard hearted and probably misanthropic on the verge of the grave.

Of a keener selfishness it takes a shrewder policy, the boy begins to long for elevation, to study and work for it. His desire of course grows by what it feeds on. It spurs him on to extreme exertion, aiming at the first place, and ^{he is} miserable if he failed to gain it.

He encounters every obstacle, defies all scoffings and ridicule, meets unyielding rivals and withstands secret enemies.

Through trial and disappointment - and all sorts of heartachings and bad tossings, he struggles up the steep of his ambition to secure simply some medal of

Emmy

honor or headmans oration. Into his life pursuits he carries the same restless ambition. He frowns upon his rivals and is unhappy if there is a Meordecai in the gate, who does not bend to him. He is envious of every competitor in his profession who is reputed greater or richer than he. What an author has said of a poor man's son, elaborates and illustrates this view of the subject.

The poor
man's son.

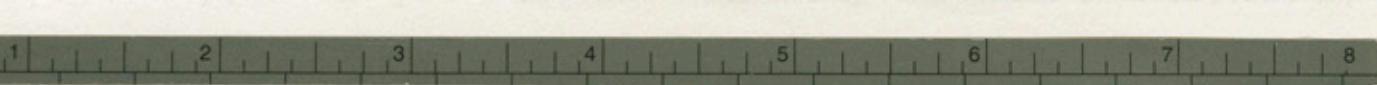
"The poor man's son, whom Heaven
"in its anger has visited with ambition, when
"he begins to look around him, admires
"the condition of the rich. He finds the cot-
"tage of his father too small for his ac-
"commodation, and fancies he should be
"lodged more at his ease in a palace. He
"is displeased with being obliged to walk
"afoot, or to endure the fatigue of riding on
"horseback. He sees his superiors carried
"about in machines, and imagines that in
"one of these he would travel with less incon-
"venience. He feels himself naturally

" indolent and willing to serve himself with-
 " his own hands as little as possible; and
 " judges that a numerous retinue of servants
 " would save him from a great deal of
 " trouble. He thinks if he had attained all
 " these, he would sit still contentedly and
 " be quiet, enjoying ~~in~~ the thought of his
 " happiness and tranquility of his situation.

" He is enchanted with the distant idea
 " of this felicity. It appears in his fancy
 " like the life of some superior order of
 " beings; and in order to arrive at it, he
 " devotes himself forever to the pursuit of
 " wealth and greatness. To obtain
 " the conveniences which these afford,
 " he submits in the first year, nay,
 " in the first month of his application,
 " to more fatigue of body and to more
 " weariness of mind, than he could have
 " suffered through the whole of his life from
 " the want of them. He studies to dis-
 " tinguish himself in some laborious pro-

...and willing to serve himself with
his own hands as little as possible; and
...that a numerous number of servants
...from a great deal of
...if he had obtained all
...it is certainly true
...the purpose of the
...and responsibility of his situation
...the greatest of the
...of his family. It is evident in his family
...the life of some superior order of
...in order to serve at it in
...to the highest power to the highest
...and...
...the...
...in the first year, and
...of his application
...of work and to meet
...of mind, that he could have
...the whole of his life from
...the world to him. The thing is to be
...himself in some laborious pro-

"fession. With the most unrelenting
 "industry, he labors night and day to
 "acquire talents superior to all his com-
 "petitors. He endeavors next to bring
 "those talents into public view: and with
 "equal assiduity solicits every opportunity
 "of employment. For this purpose he
 "makes his court to all mankind -----
 "----- through the whole of his life
 "he pursues the idea of a certain ele-
 "gant and artificial repose, which
 "he may never arrive at; for which
 "he sacrifices a real tranquility that is
 "at all times within his power, and which
 "if in the extremity of old age he
 "should at last obtain it - he will
 "find to be in no respect preferable to
 "that humble security and contentment,
 "which he had abandoned for it. It is
 "then in the last stages of life, his body
 "wasted with toil and diseases, his
 "mind galled and ruffled by the memory



" of a thousand injuries and disappoint-
 " ments which he imagines he has met-
 " with from the injustice of his enemies,
 " or from the perfidy and ingratitude of
 " his friends, that he begins at last to
 " find that wealth and greatness are
 " mere trinkets of frivolous utility - - - -
 " - - - - In his heart he curses am-
 " bition and vainly regrets the ease
 " and innocence of youth, pleasures which
 " are fled forever, and which he has
 " foolishly sacrificed for what, when he
 " has got it, can afford him no real
 " satisfaction. Power and riches appear
 " then to be what they are enormous
 " and oppress machines, which must
 " be kept in order with the most anxious
 " attention, and which, in spite of all our
 " care, are ready at every moment to burst
 " into pieces, and to crush in their ruins
 " their unfortunate possessor. They
 " are immense fabrics, which it requires

" the labor ~~the labor~~ of a life to
 " raise, which threaten every moment -
 " to overwhelm the person that dwells in them;
 " And which while they stand, though
 " they may save him from some of the
 " smaller inconveniences, can protect him from
 " none of the severe inclemencies of the season.
 " They keep off the summer shower,
 " not the winter storm, but leave him al-
 " ways as much, and sometimes more,
 " exposed to sorrow, to disease, to dan-
 " ger and to death".

the labor of a life to
- become great talents, vision
to overcome the power that dwells in them;
but which while they sleep, watch
they may have been saved of the
world - the power, can protect him from
the power of the summer - the power
- the power of the summer - the power
- but his vision - but leave him to
work as usual, but sometimes more
- the power to overcome, to become, to become
- the power to become.

Ambition
as a domi-
nant pas-
sion.

Poets and scholars, moral and religious teachers and the voice of a world-wide experience, delivered from every platform, have constantly affirmed the madness of ambition as a dominant-passion; yet-

today under its influence millions are struggling up some perilous steep, each hoping sooner or later to reach that refreshing, undefinable pinnacle of comfort which a fitful fancy has dimly pictured in the distance. The toil, care

and anxiety are not the worst features of this struggle. Each seems to bear a spite or grudge against his neighbor and tries to throw him back from the eminence he reaches. His neighbor may be a rival statesman with learning, energy and political wisdom.

His ascriptions to him are villainy, hypocrisy, time-serving, treachery and what-not? Or that neighbor a clergyman, fearless in the proclamation of truth he is styled a calumniator, a meddler, an

What true
men must
expect from
the ambi-
tions.

incendiary, an egotist. In troublous times like these, true men must daily encounter the immoderately ambitious, and controvert their designs. They must expect to meet in array against them all the forces that the vicious and the intemperate can collect; they must expect misrepresentation, accusations and often scathing denunciation. These are some of the fruits of this inordinate passion. There is nothing to be gained from it.

Elections

To species of fraud that it will not stoop to. You may trace it in the lying, cheating, cursing, brawling and murder that have attended some many of our elections. The terrific war

War and
riots

through which we have passed and the riots and murders that have followed as its legitimate fruit, are traceable to this same lust for power, this party-hungry, spoil-seeking ambition. Such results as denunciation, calumny, envy, hatred and malice, may be so unrestrained as to destroy

Roman
Empire

the peace of society. Yet even these are not so terrible, because not so sweeping as the gross, the collective ravages under the influence of this insatiable passion e.g. When the Roman Empire was rising in wealth and power, cities were swept away by her victorious troops.

Men, women and children taken in war were given to the sword or sold into hopeless slavery. Excesses, cruelties and horrors are plentifully spread over the page of her history. The blood of enemies, the blood of beasts and the blood of Christians were mingled in the sacrifices! There is only here and there an oasis of mercy. All these inhumanities, from resistance to the will of a conquering ambition.

United ambition led the way as Rome ascended; divided ambition invited the terrific storm which finally swept her from the earth. There is a glare and glitter often in the attainments of am-

bitious men, as in the case of the 1st Napoleon, which takes the eye of the multitude, and calls forth their plaudits, yet amid the festal scenes, the booming praises, the brilliant reviews and all the pomp of imperial display, there always arises a low murmur, heard by the Master, an unceasing moan of crushed and bleeding hearts - Mothers weeping for their children because they are not.

Our Country

Behold what the same lust for power has done in this country.

Men have fixed their hearts upon some selfish object, some abnormal experience like human slavery and devoted all the sophistry of inventive genius to robe it in glowing colors, and even to claim for it the Divine sanction. Multitudes are deceived by the attractive vesture, and in their cities and temples bow the knee and cry Hosannas

to that fallen angel who has always loaded mortals with burdens too heavy to be borne, who is ^{still} forging, as he has ever done, chains for the disciples of Christ and who takes a fiendish delight in making them drink the dregs of degradation and cruelty.

It is not wonderful that the followers and worshippers of Satan should become assimilated to him.

Trachery

Under the same vicious ambition, trachery has formed plans the most complete and the shrewdest possible. A new union was formed with slavery as the central figure. Revs were thoroughly organized to uproot the tree of liberty and overthrow its defenders. You know

The contest,
its cost.

the result. It is as the true men
believed it would be; but no man
can estimate the work that the contest
has cost. — The desolate homes, the
vacant seats at the board and the
fire-side. The father, the brother and
the son have not returned. The mother,
the sister, the daughter, may call for
them — they will not answer. They
may wait for them — they will not
appear. The places that knew them
can know them no more, this side the
grave. Who today, North or
South, East or West, can describe the
deep channels of ^a sorrow not yet
assuaged! There is yet a cry from
thousands of the poor, ^{the} orphaned and
widowed multitude. Of course

The wicked Spirit is defeated and his evil designs counteracted, yet we should not fail to read and to understand the language of woe for our offences, so as to strive, and in season, against the very principles that produced these offences.

There is always a strong temptation in human nature to let the end justify the means. For a living, a man will sometimes sacrifice a cherished principle, and he seems to fancy that he is doing an act of merit if the sacrifice be made for others - e.g. for a dependent family. Satan will promise you anything, office, wealth, promotion, knowledge, ^{safety} if you will fall down and worship him. He under-

7.3

the workers spirit is depressed and
 his but during counter-revolution, yet we
 should not fail to read only to
 understand the language of your
circle it is a, every one of them
 and in fact, against the very
 principles that produced these officers.
 there is always a group of people
 that in human nature to let the best
 for a circle of officers. For a circle of officers
 will have their own circle of officers
 principles, and he seems to have
 that he is doing an act of merit
 if the officer is made for others -
 for a different family. This will
 provide you anything, officer, wealth,
 position, ^{power} and will fall
 down and worship him. The worker

Stands well every phase of your ambition, and he pleases you according to the lust of your own soul. Depend upon it, my friends, there is no safety in yielding for an instant to a heartless and Godless ambition.

Even food itself procured at the sacrifice of principle will prove to be a sure poison. The sweet morsels of today will be but an investment for future sorrow and remorse. Yet do not misunderstand me — the good and the virtuous are not to hide away and shrink from important duties.

They must not be driven into obscurity or inaction, but with kindness, with

forbearance, yet with- the firmness of the rock, adhere to right-principles.

I hope the time has already come, when such men will step to the front in every walk of life. When offices of public trust will no longer be refused by upright-men.

Dishonesty, public robbery and corruption of every sort may be looked for under the lead of a selfish ambition, for we know that if the tree be corrupt, the fruit will be corrupt. Our national security, our social security, our personal security, demand that we make the tree good. To do this, the Christian must cherish and nourish every tender plant of righteousness, and endeavor

by prayer and personal labor to lead his friends and neighbors into full fellowship with the Lord. Success here will make the hearts of men right; their motives pure, so that the strongest impulses and aspirations of the soul will tend to honor God and bless his children.

The ambition that will make us, or rather that will let us, love most, is what we want.

The Brazen Serpent was lifted up in the wilderness, men looked up and were healed. Christ was lifted up on the cross; for eighteen hundred years sinners have raised their faces towards him and been cleansed. He sitteth today at the right-hand of God

boy brought over personal letter to read
 his friends and neighbors with full
 fellowships with the school. Several
 with make the heads of men right.
 their mother's house, as that the thought
 perhaps and satisfaction of the school
 will tend to have good and best his
 children. The condition that will
 make us, or rather that will let us
 have more, is what we want. The
 proper people were lifted up in the
tribunes. men labeled up and were
 checked. That was lifted up on the
 cross; for which hundred years has
 now have to see their faces turned
 down and been changed. The school
 had a small - there it is - actual

And watches for every upward look
and sympathies with, and aids every
upward yearning of the heart.

Let men look up - let nations
look up, and strive with all their
might, for the very best-gift.

This is the true way to bring
to pass the blessed prayer "Thy kingdom
come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is
in Heaven."

The immortal soul can aim
at nothing less than a blessed immor-
tality.

