

great personality that even those with whom he contended most bitterly became, after they learned to know him, his most intimate friends.

While objectively his great discovery in chemistry remains and will remain a wonderful factor in chemical science, the progress of that science, since his day, has so far left behind what he knew of principles, of materials, and of apparatus, that he appears already chiefly as a personage in chemical history. Like Bacon, he pointed the way into a rich realm he could not enter and to-day I speak of him not in sorrow but in triumph because he was a great scientist, because he brought his labors and fame from intolerant England to a welcoming America, because he was a man of large and varied learning, because he was a righteous man, honest, pure, just and true, and because these traits are the heralds of the highest type of mankind. All may not be able to traverse the wide realms of science or penetrate deeply the mysteries of nature, yet all can pay due tribute of respect and reverence to the man who stands with Galileo, Newton, Harvey, Franklin, and Humboldt, grand, colossal, and enduring; one of the great high priests in the boundless and beautiful temple of nature. And while in the lapse of everlasting time all human names may be forgotten, many ages will have come and gone and left their silent footmarks upon the earth before the name of Joseph Priestley will have passed from the records and memories of his fellowmen; for he has written it in letters of light and glory upon the highest and broadest pillar of the universe. By right of genius and labor he takes rank with the dead but sceptered sovereigns who still rule our spirits from their urns.

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