

philanthropic movement which has for its end the advancement of higher education. The press is announcing weekly, and it may almost be said daily, the bequest of a large endowment fund to some college or university, or the establishing of industrial schools, laboratories, etc. At the same time our more literary institutions are throwing off their garb of conservatism and are strengthening the scientific side of their work in a manner that would not have been thought of ten years ago. Is all this to be accounted for simply as a chance occurrence in time? We think not. Some years ago Germany underwent a great revival in regard to her industrial education and commercial interests and to day her standing in learning and the industries is among the foremost, if not the best, in the world. England soon learned the secret of the rapid progress in Germany and immediately applied herself to the people, and happily for her, for she has struck the right source. In the United States, if the tendency is toward commercialism, as seems evident, do we not find in this a partial explanation why millions upon millions are being given to the furtherance of this work in education? The greater part of this vast sum of wealth being used for practical purposes, it seems as though it is but one expression of the spirit of the times. Most of our great philanthropists are business men and it is but logical to think that it is owing to the business and moral interests of the country that they concentrate most of their wealth in the more practical institutions, and such seems to be the case. Whether this charitable movement is to continue very long can only be seen in the future; but whatever may be its outcome, the beginning of the twentieth century in the United States may well be characterized as being an era of unprecedented advance in the interests of higher education.

