Money compared with Brains.

"Some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them." Every person seems to have a different opinion of greatness. Some have the idea that a millionaire is a great person, others that a man of brains is the greater person.

Now let us consider this matter and by contrasting the good done by the man of money, and the good done by the man of brains, settle to our own satisfaction, which one greatness we most admire and would prefer.

First it will be necessary for us to make a few suppositions in regard to these men. We will suppose that one is a man of extraordinary means, possessing the brains of an ordinary business person. That the other is a very gifted and brilliant sort of a brain, who wins his place in the world by the use and products of his brain. Finally we will suppose that both are equally moral,
have the same desire to do good, move in the same sphere in life, and that both have the same length of time in which to work. Thus suffering as nearly as possible parallel cases, let us to proceed to weigh in the balance all acts of good done by each.

This wealthy man by establishing a musical school in the city of Cincinnati, raised it in the scale of culture. Its influence extends to outside circles as well as at home.

Again he founds in New York a public library where thousands of poor working people go to spend their evenings improving their minds and by so doing making almost certain their final success and aggrandizement.

Does not this man with money, whom anarchists decry as a monopolist, do many excellent things with his money? Have we not heard of his building many homes for the first class? And for poor homeless old ladies, a place of comfort in which
they may spend their old age in peace and happiness? For the deaf and dumb an institution in which their dormant faculties may be cultivated? For educational facilities that the future generations of men and women may be a credit to the nation? For churches irrespective of denomination that the most element of his country may be purer and better? For hospitals in which all afflicted and injured persons may have the benefit of the most skillful physicians, cared for by the best trained nurses, and furnished with all other comforts which can be given? For art schools and galleries that artistic tastes may be gratified and developed? For foreign missions in order that the heathen races may be civilized and taught about their Creator.

We can recognize instantly the great degree in which brains enter into the preceding achievements. Now what great projects does this man of brains perform? Let us
first place him in the home circle. Perhaps he is an odd genius, and
no one can understand him. As a boy he is very quiet, unassuming
and bashful, but all this while the boy who is to startle the world
with his talents is thinking, deeply thinking, is spending his spare
time in reading, in earnest scholarship, asking his teachers, parents
and every one who he thinks knows anything, all sorts of questions which puzzle them to answer. He is very observant, his eye seizes every
thing. If you can surprise him out of his timidity by introducing
some subject of interest to him, he will talk well and surprise you
with his originality or with his knowledge of certain subjects. When
older he becomes the pride of his class in college, he perhaps works
his way through, leads his class, his manuscripts being the envy of all.
This is the time he begins to show his genius. He may be placed in a
of great influence and responsibility, for example as a president of a college or as a minister of the gospel. And by the exercise of his brain he enabled to help many a discouraged weary person, and many a wandering soul by his eloquent sermons. Or he may be an author whose brain is a vast mine of wealth. His influence in this case will not only be felt during life time, but will be a resounding monument to his name in all ages that follow. The effects of an author's work can never be measured with exactness; it cannot be estimated.

As one glances into the patent office and thinks of the brain power which has been expended by inventors, both great and small, of the many improvements which have been made in the way of making work easy and life luxurious, one sighs, in vain, for that power which so "departing leave behind footprints on the sands of time."

What American would not rather
be an Edison whose inventive brain has made so many improvements and helped so much in making this nineteenth Century what it is, than to be a Rothschild with all his great wealth?

It has been observed by some philosophers that some men make themselves great, others have greatness thrust upon them, and a few are born great. The ones who make themselves great will overbalance the other two put together. And it will be found that their record will last longer and be more revered. But one wishing and sighing for money or brains will not do him or any one else any good. They must be used and doing with a brave, strong, heart, a true steadfast purpose, and a desire to do for the best welfare of all mankind, doing the best they can regardless of the weight of their pockets or the extent of their brains.

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