

maintained to the present time, whether in the field or in the councils of the nations, Maryland has no cause but for pride, in reviewing the records of her sons; their skill, bravery and sacrifices in war, their ability, learning and talent as shown at the bar, in medicine, in commerce, in mechanical pursuits, in the literature and in the more retired but not less honorable walks of agriculture will bear favorable comparison with the best of her sister States.

When the pen of the impartial historian shall hereafter write the annals of our country, those of Maryland will be found full of patient sacrifice, of honor and of glory. I make these few remarks in relation to the past and present of the people of our State, because we have been constantly held up of late to the eyes of the world as an enervated, shiftless, selfish and aggressive people, and this assumption, not a fact, has been attempted to be explained philosophically by the influence of a "peculiar institution," which once existed, but is now abolished in our State. The fact does not now exist, and never has existed, the explanation is worthless now, and ever has been, so. In all the essentials of a great people, Maryland can justly claim equality at least with the very best of her sister States. This is no time nor place for statistics, but they show this fact. Let those who charge us with inferiority, attempt to bring proof to sustain their idle declaration; then it will be time enough to bring forth the facts to rebut all such statements. Some may think that the above is foreign to a work like this, but intent on the present, we seem to have forgotten that the great secret of a national advancement consists in the cultivation of a proper national pride, and that the elements of this pride exist in the associations of a nations history, and in the devotion to her institutions which springs from a knowledge of their nature and ends. By these the citizen is identified with his country and subjected to the influence of feelings and impulses, which in times past have made men heroes and patriots, and conducted whole nations to freedom. The welfare and advancement of the State are thus made objects of individual interest; and in the engrossing desire to advance its character all petty jealousies and rivalries are merged. If such is the natural result of a proper State pride, where is the State whom it behooves more zealously to cultivate it than that in which we dwell.

I do not claim that Maryland has improved all of her natural resources, so bountifully bestowed as to be without parallel elsewhere. She has not developed a tithe of her mineral deposits, her commercial advantages, her water power, her Mechanical and Manufacturing advantages, nor her unequalled resources for the improvement of her soil, in addition to these her admirable and unequalled climate and great social advantages have not been appreciated by ourselves, nor made known to others. We have not done ourselves nor the coun-