

life, and grasping the true idea of human elevation, is eminently conservative of the morals of man. Man, though he may become one, was not made to be a sensualist, of a low or a refined order. The intellectual and moral are designed for the ascendancy. And even he who has surrendered the sceptre and been long swayed by the less honorable impulses of his nature, may recover if he will, and speedily attain the elevation as well as the delights of a cultivated intellect.

We have alluded to the increased number of books issued from your Library. This may be ascribed not merely to an increase of members, but also to the operation of the natural laws, that appetites grow by what they feed on, and one book creates a demand for another. Man the animal, and man the "living soul," live under this law. If we can but get our young men into our rooms, and put them through the process of reading one book well, or even not well, we do not doubt the result; he will call for another. Constitutional law will insure the result. And however unused to consecutive reading a man may be, however hard the the task of prolonging attention may be, no human mind, not hopelessly idiotic, can apply its powers to digesting one book, or half a one, without marking an era in his intellectual life—he must have another, and when this result is gained, a young man has cast out an anchor which will hold him amid the sweeping currents of trifles, vanities and temptations, that beset us all in this great city.

We have not remarked, as we might have done, upon the high character of the books upon our shelves, added in the past and previous years. We may, however, safely invite attention to them. Enlarged means would have enabled us to invite you to a more protracted and satisfactory review of what we have. We have, however, a Library that will meet the demands of every taste. Careful not merely to provide for the recreation of an hour, we have furnished a storehouse of works for the more permanent purposes of literature and science. Works of an expensive character, beyond the power, save of the most affluent to buy, historical, philosophical, scientific, together with