

millions for a better government, but how is reform to come? In the midst of a conflict, whose issues are human happiness, human liberty and human life itself, from what source is reform to come?

Whence standing in midst of oppression surrounded by doubt and fear may humanity expect to find relief? We do not believe that permanent reform can be brought about by hasty legislation, it must come through a long process of education. The province of the Government is the administration of justice between man and man; beyond this it cannot go. Educate and exalt the citizen. Let him know that he is a sovereign. Let him be independent and self-reliant. Exalt and purify the home. Let every community be independent, and as far as may be sovereign to its own wants—independence is the life of progress. Against the dangers of centralizing all political powers place the approved and unperishable principle of local self-government, for an intelligent ballot is the great bulwark of American liberty.

The issue is here. It must be met. Whether liberty shall be preserved or centralized power shall rule.

Let it be understood that we do not believe that America has yet reached her greatest development, nor that our Republic, the grandest ever formed by the hand of man, is destined to an early fall. On the contrary, we believe that with this rapid increase of intelligence that is now being disseminated throughout our land, this increasing tendency toward centralization will be checked and our ballot will be made stronger and purer. We believe that these great discussions and agitations that are now exciting the minds of the people bid fair to the ultimate and just solution of these vexing problems, and that our Republic will yet fulfill her mission as the great standard bearer of freedom and advancement. For the struggle of human liberty never goes backward among the English-speaking people. It has inspired our brothers across the sea to struggle from despotism to liberty. It was the motive force that wrested Magna Charta from the despotic hand of King John. It overthrew the divine right of kings and established a government by the people and for the people; it landed the Mayflower on New England's ice bound shore; it inspired the Pilgrims to brave the wilds of an unknown forest, and