

sources of positive enjoyment which are not less 'real because they are intellectual, or less valuable because they cannot be appropriated or bartered in exchange: but which yet cannot be attained by mere intellectual aspiration or effort; but require for their production and dissemination appliances and means of a refined character, and combinations of a recondite kind; such as only an advanced stage of material as well as intellectual progress can furnish. Such a piece of intellectual wealth is the solution of that great enigma (such, at least, in all former time) of the distance of the stars,—a problem which has yielded, at length, to the delicacy and refinement of astronomical observation, during the lapse of the last thirty years; combined with and acting through the marvels of mechanical skill and workmanship which are now obtainable. That distance is now no longer the hazy and absolutely indefinite matter of conjecture which it was (to go no farther back) in the time of Newton, or even in the middle of the last century. Of some, at least, of them it can be said with every reasonable assurance of probability, that their distance is known within an eighth or a ninth part of the truth, one way or the other; and of several, that we can arrange them in order of distance, nearer and more remote, with little or no presumption of mistake. A stepping-stone is thus laid for another upward struggle towards the infinite—to the *nebulæ*, the remotest objects of which we have any know-
αφενος, Gr.), expresses *wealth* in its largest sense of general abundance and well-being. *Ploutos* (*πλουτος*, *Plutus*), *riches*, in the more restricted sense of the precious metals, or, at the utmost, of exchangeable value.