

or agencies which mould "each distinct civilisation as the effect of a permanent force." They are race and epoch [*moment, momentum*]. Thus race, surroundings, and epoch are the three different sources which contribute to produce the whole moral and social constitution. "What we call the Race means the innate and hereditary dispositions which man brings with him into the world." But "man is not alone in the world; nature surrounds him and his fellow-men surround him." And there is yet a third series of causes; for, "with the forces within and without there is the work which they have already produced together, and this work contributes to produce that which follows. Besides the permanent impulse and the given surroundings there is the acquired momentum."

To illustrate this theory Taine wrote his 'History of English Literature,' seeking in it "for the psychology of a people," and the reason why he chose this special subject is because "there are few nations that have, during their whole existence, really thought and written." "Besides there is a peculiarity in this civilisation, that, apart from its spontaneous development, it presents a forced deviation, it has suffered the last and most effectual of all conquests, and the three grounds whence it has sprung, race, climate, the Norman invasion, may be observed in its remains with perfect exactness: so

respondante, ne me reprocheront pas, sans doute, l'introduction de cette expression nouvelle. Quant à moi, la spontanéité avec laquelle elle s'est si souvent présentée sous ma plume, malgré ma constante aversion pour le néologisme systématique, ne me permet guère de

douter que ce terme abstrait ne manquât réellement jusqu'ici à la science des corps vivans" ('Philosophie Positive,' iii. p. 301 n.) He makes extensive use of it in his later work, and it has there been rendered in English by the term "environment."