

III.

ADDRESS

AT AN EVENING MEETING OF THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS
HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, BALTIMORE, SEPTEMBER 30, 1873.

I AM no speaker, but I must return a few words of thanks for the kind language with which I have been received. When I see an institution like this in its first beginnings, I am carried back to the time when my own university in England was begun, perhaps a thousand years ago, in the fabulous obscurity of the age of Alfred, or the more recent historic times of Walter of Merton or Devorguilla of Balliol; and I observe the repetition of the same yearnings after a distant future of improvement, as those which were before the minds of those old mediæval founders. The same spirit is needed for that improvement on this side of the ocean and on the other. I am led to think of the