

Not only the language and the church, but the state and population being composed of such heterogeneous and militant materials, it is absurd to suppose the continuation, for any considerable period, of such a nation, especially when feebly held together by a nerveless government. "Nothing," wrote Aristotle two thousand years ago, and all subsequent experience has made an axiom of what was at first but an opinion—"Nothing is more unfriendly to public tranquillity than dissimilitude of character in the citizens. A heterogeneous assemblage of mixed tribes cannot speedily coalesce into a nation; and communities which have grown populous by sudden accessions are commonly torn by sedition." This, when applied to the American states, is prophecy, in the full train of verification.

The destructive fevers too, that prevail, are no less fatal than faction. I have always thought with the Abbé Raynal, that the population will never exceed ten millions. But of all these things, and many others, you will give us the results of your immediate observation; and, as you know, for the best possible reason, I most anxiously desire you may find cause to assure us of our error. But remember what reliance rests on your assurances, and be cautious accordingly. Almost as you advise we will act. And I trust you duly appreciate the importance of your recommendation, and the momentous consequences to which it may lead.

Adieu. You are never forgotten in our prayers. Write daily, and write at large. Never mind opportunities. If a package comes together, so much the