

periodic declines, as foreshadowed in the future by the bright written pages of past history.

Barnum has well said, in his celebrated lecture on the art of money getting, "You can not accumulate a fortune by taking the road that leads to poverty." The whole history of trade and commerce is full with the records of disaster, which has been brought about by mistakes of men who could not read the letters upon the sign posts; while on the other hand our libraries are crowded with the chronology of man's success in business and trade, by taking the price and times at the advance, which leads on to fortune.

Within the present century the increase of knowledge, improvements in machinery, and the discoveries in the arts and sciences, have advanced with a speed unparalleled in the annals of history. New light in various departments of human activity is now rapidly and continually breaking in upon the world. The invention of the steamboat, railroad, and telegraph, have imparted astonishing lessons to mankind. Each discovery of the laws of nature unfolds to the mind of man, new and exalting evidences of the wisdom of the Creator. Astronomers who attempt to explore the immensity of the starry regions; to discover unseen and unknown worlds, and to find out the ways of God in the wonders of