

ister in the most prominent and powerful nation of the earth! It might have been at a time of even greater exigency than the present that the nation was deprived of its political head. It could hardly be at any time without regret that men beheld the close of so distinguished a public life, stretching over two whole generations, and rendered illustrious by many eminent services to his Country and to the Age. But Death as an enemy knows how to strike home to the heart of a nation, and to lay low, as in this case it has so unexpectedly done, the possessor of such honours from the proud pinnacle of his fame!—a proof of the vanity of earthly greatness—a demonstration that “our days on earth are as a shadow, and there is none abiding.”

Even into the fields of Christian effort, where ardent minds are engaged in doing important service to the cause of Christ, as humble instruments in His hand, Death makes lamentable inroads. It silences the voice of the eloquent preacher, who could so clearly expound the words of eternal life, and “justify the ways of God to man.” It arrests many earnest workers in the midst of their efforts of benevolence, and suspends their plans for the promotion of the interests of truth and righteousness in the world.