

at times his eyes flashed fire, and his voice rang with defiance, there was no straining after rhetorical effect. The famous Judge Story, who had prepared himself, pen in hand, to take notes, sat hour after hour, the pen appearing never to approach the paper, for as Story afterwards said, everything was so clear and so easy to remember that not a note seemed necessary. Often did Story speak of the effect produced upon the Court by that argument. "For the first hour," said he, "we listened to him with perfect astonishment, for the second hour with perfect delight, and for the third hour with perfect conviction."

Such was the eloquence of Daniel Webster. Simple, clear, strong and conclusive. There was no striving after figures of speech, no gaudy display of rhetoric; but every word had its effect, and every sentence carried its burden of conviction to the hearts of his hearers. Fortunately Webster has expressed his conception of oratory, and in doing so has illustrated and defined his own powers of speech. "True eloquence, indeed, does not consist in speech. It