

We are not vouching for the dower in question; we merely adopt the poet's words to give a hint of what we mean. Now, may not the stripping away of such adventitious helps in one quarter, and the precariousness which has come over such helps, we may perhaps say, in all quarters, be a premonitory symptom of the coming day which we are hopefully taught to expect, when Truth, pure and simple, will very widely prevail, by virtue of its own divine, intrinsic nature?

The defeats of the great bishop, then, have their moral. At the same time, those defeats in no way detract from his reputation. In considering them, we have again and again been reminded of what Montaigne says in a well-known passage, which we are tempted to give at length, so happily and characteristically does he therein put one or two parallel cases:

"The estimation and value of a man," he says, "consist in the heart and in the will: there his true honour lives. Valour is stability, not of legs and arms, but of the courage and the soul. It does not lie in the goodness of our horse, or of our arms, but in ourselves. He that falls, firm in his courage,—*Si succiderit, de genu pugnat*; "If his legs fail him, fights upon his knees;" he who, despite the danger of death near at hand, abates nothing of his assurance; who, dying, does yet dart at his enemy a fierce and disdainful look, is overcome, not by us, but by fortune; he is killed, not conquered; the most valiant are sometimes the most unfortunate. There are some defeats more triumphant than victories. Those four sister-victories, the fairest the sun ever beheld, of Salamis, Plataea, Mycale and Sicily, never opposed all their united glories to the single glory of the discomfiture of King Leonidas and his heroes at the Pass of Thermopylae. Who ever ran with a more glorious desire and greater ambition to the winning, than the captain Ischolas to the certain loss of a battle? He was ordered to defend a certain pass of Peloponnesus against the Arcadians, which, from the nature of the place and the inequality of forces, finding it utterly impossible for him to do, and seeing clearly that all who presented themselves to the enemy must certainly be left upon the place; and, on the other hand, reputing it unworthy of his own virtue and magnanimity, and of the