

may occur to prevent its fulfilment; and the uncertainty of human affairs is a truth not less capable of inspiring hope than despondency. But if every man feels this with regard to the short period of his own individual existence, how much more forcibly does it apply to the political life of a State; and how trifling do those evils appear, which will fall only on our children's children, in the thousandth generation! When therefore it is proposed to send out a Colony to a newly discovered region, the keenest and most far sweeping glance can scarcely discern those dim forms of danger which rise so faintly in the remotest distance, when the nearer prospect, for many a league around, is nothing but tranquillity and beauty. Long before the small and dependent band, which is now borne with all its substance in a few barks across the ocean, can become a great and a hostile nation, the country of their fathers may be a wilderness, and the sole remnants of its language and its name be preserved amongst the posterity of its exiled children.

Far less remote is the good which a wise Government may justly hope to derive from its Colo-