

but to the generality of his readers, the plain, uneducated, matter-of-fact people—which characterize with a never-failing individuality, the productions of his pen. But it contains truths—naked, all important truths, in relation to our Country, which should be remembered and pondered over by all. It is better to look steadily at the danger while it yet lies like a sullen cloud in the distance, than to veil our eyes until the earth is quaking to the stroke of its thunder-bolts, and the red pathway of its lightning is visible above us.

We have selected a beautiful and eloquent passage from the commencement of the address as a specimen of the author's power of language and accurate conception of truth :

“Call up the soothsayer and astrologer of our day—in other words the accomplished and prepared statesman—and let him cast the horoscope of an earthly power, as it should be cast, with histories and map and statistical tables before him, and he may prophesy with as much safety concerning its final overthrow and the cases and consequences thereof—though neither he nor the angels above, may be able to foresee the day or the hour—as if a chart of the future were outspread upon the sky, showing the lighted pathway of every shipwrecked empire, and of every missing star, from the day of their unheeded birth on the shore of the firmament or the desert, in the heart of the wilderness or among the isles of the sea—forward thro' all their magnificent changes and terrible phenomena, till having touched they paused, and dwelt for a single moment upon their meridian, they pass away, and disappear forever in the sepulchre of lost worlds—forever and ever—with the crowns and sceptres—the Caliphs and the Pharaohs—Assyrias and the Babylons of the past.

“Believe as we may, or pretend, or try to believe as we may, each in favor of himself or of his country, acknowledge the great universal truth by our language, but denying it by our behaviour, it is a fact—let it be remembered as a fact of stupendous import—it is a FACT, that Nations, like men, are mortal ; that every step they take whether upward or downward, whether forward or backward, is but another step toward the burial-place of Ninevah and of Tyre, of Carthage and of Rome—and why not of Poland, of Spain, or of Turkey ? And it is equally true that with nations, as with men there is no returning to youth or to innocence—no going BACK to the age of unvisited health and strength, of unwearied efforts, or of unsullied virtue—no second birth to unimpeachable character—to unquestionable supremacy, however there may be to a period of comparative health and strength, of comparative enterprize or virtue—of comparative ascendancy. With nations as with individuals, character once gone, is gone forever—the fountains of life, the sources of health and strength and virtue, once defiled, are defiled, forever. With nations as with men, too, what are called restoratives, are at the very best, but palliatives. The most that can be done,—all that can be done