

nations and straighteneth them." Then, and then only, shall we read history with profit and enter into the spirit and life of the ages "long o'erpast."

If this is true of history in general; if, with reverence, we may say of the rise and fall of any nation: "This is Thy work Almighty Providence! whose power, beyond the stretch of human thought, revolves the orbs of empires, bids them sink deep in the deadening night of Thy displeasure, or rise majestic o'er a wondering;" what shall be said of that nation whose history it has pleased the Great God to delineate in His revelation to man; that nation, which, outside of Israel, was to be most intimately connected with the spread of His Holy Religion; the nation also under whose government His Son was to be born, and by the sentence of whose office's, suffer cruel death? Shall we listen for the voice of God in the history of *that* nation? *Need* we listen? Will not His voice be heard *whenever* that people speak out for that which in itself is just and right? The question to be decided therefore is: "How far has the voice of the Roman people been on the side of truth and righteousness?" For just so far, have we now decided, was the *Vox Populi Romani* the *Vox Dei*.

Turning to the history of that wonderful nation, we discover at once that the *Vox Populi* is an important element in it and is heard unceasingly. But "the people's voice is odd; it is, and it is *not* the voice of God." Yet with the principle in mind that we have now established, one would have little difficulty in deciding when "it is" and when "it is not" the *Vox Dei*, if men saw eye to eye politically; for facts will be interpreted by opinions and what to one is the voice of God, to another may be but the mutterings of Pluto. The framers of the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America affirm that these truths are self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed with certain inalienable rights—among others, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness: that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to abolish it and institute new forms that will best secure their safety and happiness." Do we assent to these affirmations? If we say, "nay," we condemn the work of our fathers; retrace the steps of progress already taken by civilization; vote the United States a fraud and Cromwell a rebel.

Granting, then, these truths and remembering the conclusion already reached, we will listen while the people speak. When a people find themselves political non-entities, needful for fighting in times of war and useful for taxes in seasons of peace, but possessing no rights or privileges; often driven into slavery and sometimes suffering death because unable to meet debts incurred while rendering unremunerated service in protection of the