

lesson, showing too plainly to the natives of Sleepy Hollow the ravages of old Neptune, or that I comforted myself with the probability that, if the exodus then in progress added to the deaths, continued to exceed the birth-rate, then, before the Island ceased to exist she would cease to be inhabited,—however it was—I got used to the idea before I lost my wisdom teeth, and now from a green old age contemplate with equanimity the inevitable catastrophe.

But, come it soon or come it late, the pleasant fact remains that "sink or swim, survive or perish," this little Island will have made such a splash in the stream of time as to signalize her existence to the furthest bounds of the earth. Her monument shall remain in the memory of the race; and the lives and deeds of her children at home and abroad, who have made, are making and will make their mark high up in every generation and in every clime, shall be an influence and an inspiration exerting itself for the good of humanity throughout all time.

For not without reason has she been called "The Training-School of North America." And, though the time may come when the atoms which flew together at her birth shall be worn again into dust and scattered to the four quarters of the earth, her fame shall be more wide-spread, more lasting, than her substance; and it may then be said of the Island as it was of one of her noblest sons:—

"Her work is done; but shall survive in brains
Which she first taught to think. The funeral pall
Covers not that, nor the cold tomb restrains;
But down the halls of time it goes and never wanes."

Even our Uncle Sam, now becoming an Islander on his own behalf, can never forget that "the Island" for him is still to the North. Though he may rely for his