

his government. Happily foiled, as respects the majority of its intended victims, it has been only too successful in regard to the most loved and trusted of them all. Abraham Lincoln has fallen by the hand of the assassin! There are multitudes in other lands who have learned to love the departed President, almost as a personal friend; and still more who will abhor the means of his untimely end. What is to-day the voice of a weeping nation, will as swiftly as these tidings fly, become the voice of the Christian world. —“As a man falleth before wicked men, so fellest thou.”

We need express no opinion on the terrible and protracted contest with which this act is so closely connected. Intelligent men, looking on from without, may not find it very easy to sympathize entirely with either party; and in attempting to apportion the blame, may honestly differ. But whatever diversity of sentiment may obtain as to the unhappy war, which we fondly trust is now drawing to a close, there can be but one opinion of this deed of blood. It is one of those crimes to which, happily, the history of the world supplies few parallels. It makes us feel, as if the shadow on the world's dial had moved backwards. It carries us away to the dark days of French history. It recalls the blood of St. Bartholomew and Henry IV., and awakens us to the consciousness that crimes, which we had hoped were impossible, in Christian America, may still be perpetrated among us.

In this crisis of their history, the people of the United States, to whom we are bound by so many ties of blood, language, religion, and commerce, deserve, and I am sure will receive, our warmest sympathies.

*A great and a good man has fallen among them.* Rising from the ranks to the highest position in the land, by the force and integrity of his character, Abraham Lincoln has shown himself one of nature's nobility. His name is destined, we believe, to take a high place among the statesmen of the world. Firm, wise, consistent, honest, conciliatory, and generous even to a fault, yet inflexible in pursuing the unity of the nation, and, in subordination thereto, the freedom of the slave, he was eminently the man for the crisis in which the helm of state came into his hand. Shunning all appeals to the passions and pre-