

They have read history to little purpose, who have not seen that as a people become rich and self-inflated, and the over-mastering passions of human nature are allowed to rage unrestrainedly, divisions and distractions arise to undermine and weaken the body politic ; fearful changes are impending ; anarchy ensues ; and by degrees the people sink back to the level of a greatly lowered standard of national character.

We may profitably look back to the nations of antiquity, and in the history of their departed greatness, read the impressive truth that all prosperity is delusive which is founded on immorality and wrong ; and further, may rest assured that the most truly enlightened policy that can obtain in the councils of a people, is the earnest and consistent purpose to uphold the right. No time serving and double faced expediency ; no truckling and sycophantic subserviency ; no vascillating compromises between right and wrong, can be of lasting good.

Several of those early nations were far advanced in wealth, learning, and the arts, and in some respects are said to have even surpassed the efforts of modern genius ! “ But where is all their glory gone ? ”

When the inhabitants of our own “ Mother Isle ” were still barbarians, China was at the summit of her grandeur ; yet the oceans that separate Britain from the “ Celestial Empire,” are not wider in space, than is the moral difference now existing between the national characteristics and social systems of these two peoples.

THE END.