

and even by the terror of his name.—Gibbon's *Rome*, ch. 39.

202. AMBITION, Sleepless. *Mahomet II.* [Fearing the bribes of his enemies, he sent for his prime vizier at midnight, who came with much alarm to learn Mahomet's anxiety to possess Constantinople.] "Lala" (or preceptor), continued the sultan, "do you see this pillow? All the night, in my agitation, I have pulled on one side or the other; I have risen from my bed, again have I lain down; yet sleep has not visited these weary eyes. Beware of the gold and silver of the Romans . . . with the aid of God and the prayers of the prophet, we shall speedily become masters of Constantinople."—Gibbon's *Rome*, ch. 68.

203. AMBITION, Spurred. *General Schuyler*, A.D. 1777. [Gen. Gates asked Congress to appoint himself to supersede Schuyler in command at Albany and Ticonderoga.] His uneasy and ambitious wife let her voice be heard: "If you give up one iota, and condescend to be adjutant-general, I may forgive it, but never will forget it." [He was unfit for either position, but gained his point.]—BANCROFT'S *U. S.*, vol. 9, ch. 19.

204. AMBITION, Subordinated. *Oliver Cromwell*. Macaulay . . . says: "The ambition of Oliver was of no vulgar kind. He never seems to have coveted despotic power. He, at first, fought sincerely and manfully for the Parliament, and never deserted it till it had deserted its duty. But even when thus placed by violence at the head of affairs, he did not assume unlimited power. He gave the country a constitution far more perfect than any which had, at that time, been known to the world. For himself, he demanded indeed the first place in the Commonwealth, but with powers scarcely so great as those of a Dutch stadtholder or an American president. He gave to Parliament a voice in the appointment of ministers, and left it to the whole legislative authority, not even reserving to himself a veto on its enactments; and he did not require that the chief magistracy should be hereditary in his family. Thus far, if the circumstances of the time and the opportunities which he had for aggrandizing himself be fairly considered, he will not lose by comparison with Washington and Bolivar."—Mood's *CROMWELL*, ch. 1.

205. AMBITION, Unhappy. *Timour the Tartar*. [The nuptials of his six grandsons were celebrated for two months.] The historian of Timour may remark, that, after devoting fifty years to the attainment of empire, the only happy period of his life were the two months in which he ceased to exercise his power. But he was soon awakened to the cares of government and war.—Gibbon's *Rome*, ch. 65.

206. AMBITION unsatisfied. *Roman Emperor Severus*. The ascent to greatness, however steep and dangerous, may entertain an active spirit with the consciousness and exercise of its own powers; but the possession of a throne could never yet afford a lasting satisfaction to an ambitious mind. This melancholy truth was felt and acknowledged by Severus. Fortune and merit had, from an humble station, elevated him to the first place among mankind. "He

had been all things," as he said himself, "and all was of little value." Distracted with the care, not of acquiring, but of preserving an empire, oppressed with age and infirmities, careless of fame, and satiated with power, all his prospects of life were closed. The desire of perpetuating the greatness of his family was the only remaining wish of his ambition and paternal tenderness.—Gibbon's *Rome*, ch. 6.

207. AMBITION, Unscrupulous. *Stephen A. Douglas*. His faults were great and lamentable. Like so many other public men who spend their winters in Washington, he lived too freely and drank too much. If he was a skillful politician, he was sometimes an unscrupulous one, and supported measures for party reasons which he ought to have opposed for humane and patriotic ones. He said himself that President Polk committed the gigantic crime of "precipitating the country into the Mexican war to avoid the rule of the Democratic party," and knowing this, he supported him in it. His rapid and uniform success as a politician inflamed his ambition, and he made push after push for the Presidency, and finally permitted his party to be divided rather than postpone his hopes. He was in too much of a hurry to be President.—*CYCLOPEDIA OF BIOG.*, p. 201.

208. AMBITION, War of. "Seven Years' War." [Frederick the Great professed friendship and support to the young ruler of Austria.] Yet the King of Prussia, the "Anti-Machiavel," had already fully determined to commit the great crime of violating his plighted faith, of robbing the ally whom he was bound to defend, and of plunging all Europe into a long, bloody, and desolating war, and all this for no end whatever except that he might extend his dominions and see his name in the gazettes. He determined to assemble a great army with speed and secrecy to invade Silesia before Maria Theresa should be apprised of his design, and to add that rich province to his kingdom . . . To quote his own words: "Ambition, interest, the desire of making people talk about me, carried the day, and I decided for war."—MACAULAY'S *FREDERICK THE GREAT*, p. 28.

209. AMERICA for Americans. "Monroe Doctrine." The British and French ministers proposed to the American Government to enter into a Tripartite Treaty—so called—in which each of the contracting nations was to disclaim then and forever all intention of possessing Cuba. To this proposal Mr. [Alex. H.] Everett replied in one of the most masterly State papers on record. Great Britain and France were informed . . . that the Federal Government did not recognize in any European power the right to meddle with affairs purely American, and that, in accordance with the doctrine set forth by President Monroe, any such interference would be resented as an affront to the sovereignty of the United States.—RIDPATH'S *U. S.*, ch. 58.

210. AMERICA, Future of. *Lafayette*. He received the order of the king [of France] to give up his expedition [in aid of the Americans] . . . he braved the order, and . . . embarked for America. . . . To his young wife . . . he wrote on board the *Victory*, at sea; "From love to me become a good American;