Rise Trend and Growth of Our Nation.

Nature does not grow as in olden times slowly and silently like the sturdy oak of the forest, but rather like the rose of the cool breeze with the sea of their sudden uprising. Proceeding nations lived half their life before they reached any degree of maturity. Rome was a state for 500 years Japan and China have for thousands of years been mired in the deep of times and today they do not show marks of advancement that characterized America a century ago. Contrast if you will the countries of Greece, Phoenicia and Egypt with that of our own new America. It took ten centuries for Greece to attain her boastful supremacy. Egypt and Phoenicia lived for 2000 years to reach but the shadow of the advancement of that of our own delightful salt country. Can we not then with a feeling of pride boast of our rapid progress. Think for the moment 150 years ago no settler had ever set foot on American soil. Can you place yourselves in those days. Picture yourselves in company with that body of abused and persecuted but fearless pilgrims planning in the calm of the Mayflower a code of laws for mutual strength and protect
son. See them now with a strong faith in providential care and guidance, united by a bond of love and liberty. Leave the wave-fretted sides of that faithful old ship to find a home in a wild and barren country. Feel the chill creep over you as you lie in breathless terror listening to the savage howl growing and growing at the door of your low log cabin. Feel the terror that surged when the savage war-whoop falls upon your ear. Endure the bitter cold of that first winter and pass its long, dreary months in that dark and hollow hut where the life-giving sunbeam are delayed entrance by the oil papered window. Endure the bitter agony of seeing death take the life from half your number. Conform yourselves to these and your experience but some of the hardships endured by our forefathers in giving birth to our United States of America.

For growth likewise met with hazardous difficulties. How great were America’s liberties endangered by the revolution. Now was the verge of national destruction was United States in the war of 1812. Who thought that the wild and fierce state that had never than thrown off the revolutionary yoke so late aside the bloody stained sword could cope in a bloody conflict with the then greatest nation of the earth. What nation had more prospects of maintenance so was looked
upon with more profound certainty of destruction than the
United States in the civil war. This has never been a
nation that has through such hazardous difficulties
made such wonderful and rapid progress. Compare our
advantages with other nations. While you find a
more enlightened people with educational advantages
more applicable to the masses, Travel the world over
and you can find no better form of government or a
more complete system of trade. Our statesmen are among
the foremost in the world. Name a nation whose states-
men commanded more respect or attention than Franklin,
Washington, Hamilton, Jefferson or our hero, James G.
Blaine.

It is a pleasant thing to think of the present and
look back upon the rugged past but not so when we think
of the future and our trend toward it. Born and cradled
on hardships and scoured in prosperity we forget that we
have a destiny — and what is it? In determining this
will the history of the past be of any weight with you?
It forms a matter of much learning and more — it cor-
responds to interest more real and more direct than
mere historical rendition and criticism, to broader inatu-
ments and more full of life than those of mere curiosity.
We see in them our own fate and destination from them
we see ourselves but a repetition of bygone ages.
Our lives in their essentials are but Roman and Greek.
The past is but our future and because it is so it becomes our oracle, speaking our destiny in bold tones of prophecy, instruction, and authority. The death of Rome foretells our death. But why should a nation die, so is it possible that nations have a grave? Oh yes! Turn the pages of the world's history and read the accounts of dead nations. Let the light of ages 3,000 years ago flash upon your soul and thus you can see Pompeii's ruins in all her magnificent splendor. Draw back the curtain of antiquity and look upon ancient Egypt 3,000 years before Christ. Dig down 1,500 years in the soil of time and there you can find fossil Rome.

Call the roll of these extinct nations and hear the verdict. Egypt! Dead, from the pyramids of Sakkara between the verdant valley of the Nile and the Libyan desert beyond comes the pealing chime, Dead! Her obelisks and sphinxes are monuments to her glory and honor. Assyrian civilization! from the charred walls of the elegant and princely Nineveh and the heaped ruins of Babylon come the echo—Dead! Babylonian Empire answer!—Dead! The Hanging Gardens, the temple of Belus and the ruins of pleading Tyre repeats the answer—Dead! The temple of Diana at Ephesus answers Dead at the call of Persia: Greece stand up! The acropolis crowned with the beautiful Parthenon, the silent voice of Miltiades, Themistocles, Solon, Aristides, and the
Battle of Marathon, Salamis and Thermopylae in our grand scheme answer--Dead! Rome answer! The fragment of the marble baths, the ruins of the Pantheon answer Dead. The foreshadow Omens and calls of wondrous fortune porting the fall of proudest Rome.

Can we meet a like fate? Is it possible that America's love America is to be a ruined and forgotten nation? Oh yes! How can we be surprised at this knowing as we do that older nations greatness on this day have fallen caused by some of the same and similar forces that are working in our midst today. We cannot justify as we are work to do, excuse, them Institute of virtue, liberty or reason or continue them for their error when we with all of our loaded civilization and progress are following a course so similar. Since before her fall was the greatest nation of her day Rome fell was without equal, and so America though the rest with all nations in progress may follow the course of her sister nations.

What forces have we in common to which those older nations succumbed? Political bribery that will which worked the destruction of Rome is an evil similar to America. What killed Egypt and Babylonia! Their own moral depravity and luxury to ones which America knows too well.

It was but timely action that prevented France from being destroyed by the licentiousness of her
people

Treason and trickery, vils of past ages, still abound in our own free America.

Rum that poetical daughter that idealizes to speak of destruction coupled with that most luminous vice in history literature is eating away the very vitals of this nation. She does not see these incomprehensible vice

march on, urged on by the blindness of the public and weighing most heavily upon us. The youth of this land are the pillars of her stability and in these minds do we see all manner of our complaints.

With these and other enemies how can a nation maintain itself? Under a merciful God judges America by in a few short years will have passed into the region of history. In the same memory of nations will her name be found. Though overcome by evil the good that she has done will not be forgotten.

Her works will ever be honored and by the world will she be fondly remembered as she recites, "treachery by skill in the midst of his unfinished labor."

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