

successive civilizations and written "Failure" upon the grave of every government from Babylon to Turkey, from Egypt to India, from the Yucatan of 5,000 years ago to the Spanish American states. Break out the cobweb covered, dust darkened windows of our legislative halls and let in the light of heaven and the free air. Give the old Puritan strain the sunshine and the storm of open and honest contention and pray God that it may yet win the day. Do we for a moment realize, what he who runs may read, that our people are becoming convinced that laws are made to serve the purposes of vote corrupting sycophants whom a Puritan would despise and whose legislative bargaining he would loathe? I crave your pardon if the depth of more than a transient feeling has carried me beyond the sentiment of this joyous evening,—but it is said.

All hail The Morse Society! All hail the influences of the past, the aspirations for the future which war against that corrupting god, an exclusive present, the fetish of the barbarian, the citadel of the cohorts of darkness. Let us—let all who hold the inestimable privilege cherish recollections of the past and gather their inspirations. Let all who may, transmit to their posterity in succeeding ages, a record of the lives and deeds of their ancestors, an example and inspiration. In these great ends we find reason for the existence of The Morse Society.

But not alone in the past and the future are our interests. What more charming than to gather from the various associations of our great cosmopolitan country and look into family faces. Strange this similarity of race. Many generations in the past we parted and yet one of our number started as I wrote his name, the gesture and sign manual were so like those of his father. A lady impressed by a voice behind her turned and almost thought her father present. It was a Morse to be sure, though a complete stranger whose line only met hers in Joseph, five generations away, in New England. Wanderings and wars had not obliterated the strong family similarity.

Among our friends we trace the rugged individuality of Samuel, transmitted through long lines of incorruptable citizens, uncompromising divines, ardent patriots, original thinkers in the arts, in science, in religion, in law. Nowhere followers, it may be too little prone to learn from others. Ready rather to cham-