My opinions, let the result be what it may. There why do I say that the American Union is a failure, and by what process of reasoning have I arrived at that conclusion. It is because I have learned, in reviewing the history of the past, what the most casual observer cannot fail to perceive; that nations, like individuals, have their periods of birth, maturity, and decay; that they have always commenced in poverty with virtue and patriotism, and by the advancement of their arts and success and glory of their arms, have arisen to distinction and wide renown, and have, at last, by ambition, corruption, and luxury, fallen into obscurity and insignificance. This may be affirmed, without fear of successful contradiction, of every country that has ever risen, flourished and fallen. And notwithstanding Orators have exhausted all of the power and beauty of eloquence and art of rhetoric in extolling its praises, notwithstanding