

of exchange among all nations. Nothing seemed so stable as the British empire. When it was at its very height in 1897, Queen Victoria had her great jubilee after 60 years of reign. Rudyard Kipling was asked to write a poem that would commemorate the occasion. The poem that Kipling wrote, we're told, Queen Victoria didn't like! She did not extend her favors to Rudyard Kipling after he wrote that poem. But it seems Rudyard Kipling had an eye for the future beyond that of most people. He saw the great empire of the British. He saw their navy controlling the sea all over the world. He saw their holdings on which the sun never set. The ~~wp~~ poem which he wrote said:

God of our fathers known of old  
 Lord of our far-flung battle line  
 Beneath whose awful hand we hold  
 Dominion over palm and pine.

Lord God of hosts be with us yet,  
 Lest we forget, lest we forget.

The tumult and the shouting die,  
 The captains and the kings depart  
 Still stands thine ancient sacrifice,  
 A humble and a contrite heart

Lord God of hosts be with us yet,  
 Lest we forget, lest we forget.

our nation melt away  
 on dune and headland sinks the fire,  
 Lo! all our pomp of yesterday is one with Ninevah and Tyre,  
 Judge of the nations spare us yet.  
 Lest we forget, lest we forget.

When Rudyard Kipling wrote that in 1897, I wonder if he dreamed that such a change would take place in less than a century. When I visited Damascus in 1929 I signed a register in a museum and I found the name right above mine was Rudyard Kipling's who had just visited there. I wondered in 1929 if he realized how soon this had come about. England instead of being one of the great powers, one of the great leaders whose money was the standard of excellence throughout the world, descended to the position of a fourth rate power in a very brief period of time.

The glory of man is as the flower of the field, the grass withers and the flower falls away because the breath of the Lord blows upon it. The U.S.A. today seems to most of us to be the strongest power in the world. Certainly it is the one that enjoys the most of this world's goods. If you were to take someone from just about any part of Asia, certainly anybody from Russia or anywhere from beyond the Iron Curtain, and you were to let them see what the Average American buys in a week; if you were to take them to a Woolworth Store, take them to a super market and let them see what's available here, they would hardly believe it. It would seem impossible to them in comparison with anything they have access to.