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and healthful influences which that contact affords. We may not be able to forecast the future ; but we should at least recognise that, in the past, it is the influence of external nature which has, in no small measure, helped to mould our national character. The physical features of the country, the soil, the mineral products underneath, have all directly or indirectly told upon our temperament and progress. The love of country, therefore, should not be with us a mere sentimental feeling, but a genuine enthusiasm springing from a conviction that for much that is worthiest in us as a people, we are indebted to those rolling lowlands and rugged hills which, from generation to generation, have caught for us the light and the gloom of heaven