

## The Future of the Lone Star State.

AN ORATION.

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**T**HE birthpangs of a nation foreshadow its future. The oft and eloquently told narrative of adventurous daring, hardy perseverance, and intelligent zeal which has made the leaders of her colonies so famous, are the yet unappreciated springs whence her present greatness originated and whence in undiminished richness came the elements of her future ascendancy.

The sequence of events, which brought the Lone Star to the horizon, is the same under which our whole galaxy is about to culminate the same spirit which actuated the Puritans, the Huegenot exiles, the English cavaliers, actuated the Texan heroes. The Monroe doctrine is a deep rooted American growth, and, eucalyptus like, it neutralizes miasmatic influences, whether native to the soil or transplanted from abroad. Oh, Texas! It is with wonder and reverence that we refer to thy privations; with tears and regret we pause at the graves of thy heroes; with pride and joy we listen to the acclamations of thy people, proclaiming to the world that the oil of liberty anoints thy noble head.

With faith in the honest convictions of our fathers and with the welfare and prosperity of the state at heart, we joined the sister Southern States. Whether right or wrong, it matters not now; the future, not the past, claims our attention.

The rays of the Lone Star penetrated the dark cloud of defeat and cast a brilliant and glorious light over these sad fields of carnage. No soldier discharged his duty better than a Texan; no other regiments charged with such invincible courage, no other state mourned more slain. What other state began the construction period with such energy?

Casting aside, by diligent efforts, the horrible influences