And it is to the opinion of the educated and cultivated that we must look far the exercise of influence to check extravagance in style, misuse of words, and absurdites in spellng, in short, to preserve our Mother tongue the English language in its strength and simplicity and purity. This conceive, to be one of the most imporand and uates.

Study Southern History
Let us now consider another of the obligations of the educated, duty which educated Southerners owe to their Southern home,-the obligation to study carefully the lessons of Southern History. Surely is a subject peculiarly appropriate in addressing an audience in the
toric town of Abbeville, a town that will be forever memordble as th place where was held the first public meeting that voted for Secession, the place also where was held the last mieeting of the Cabinet of President Jef ferson Davis, the town that witnessed the birth and the death of the Southern Confederacy.

At this point I cannot refrain from repeating to you the noble tribute aid to General Lee by Professor Iorsley of England, a gentleman and cholar, an Oxford professor and withal a poet. He had published a new translation of the Iliad of the Greek poet, Homer. He presented a copy and touching pathos.

The grand old bard that never dies, Receive him in our English tongue!
I send thee, but with weeping eyes The story that he sung.

Thy Troy is fallen; thy dear land
Is marred beneath the spoiler's heel; I cannot trust my trembling hand

To write the things I feel
Ah, realm of tombs! But let her bear This blazon to the last of time,-
No nation rose so white and fair Or fell so pure of otme.

The widow's moan, the orphan's wail Come round thee; yet in truth be strong:
Eternal right, though all else fail,
Can never be made wrong
An angel's heart, an angel's mouth, Not Homer's, could alone for me
Sing well the great Confederate South,-
Virgina first-and Lee.
I offer no apology for repeating these lines. Could there be a fine tribute to the South than the couplet,
"No nation rose so white and fair,
These two noble lines deserve to be engraven on every Confederat monument, as, I am told they are on the Confederate monent in Au gusta.
midst of the dreadful days of Reconstruction. No
ouched the heart of the great Southern soldier.
The fates have decreed that more than on
The fates have decreed that more than one difficult problem must
solved by our Southern people, problems political, socion be solved by our Sauthern people, problems political, sociological, and even
ethnological. The changed conditions brought about by the ethnological. The changed conditions brought about by the war between
the States and by the bitter fruits of that war, have placed on the should ers of educated, Southerners a very grave obligation-perhaps of all obligations the gravest-to be the conservators of Southern histtory, and the perpetuators of all that was good and worthy, high and noble, in the past of the South.

Two generations ago the volcanic shock of war rent in twain the life of the South. sundered her past from her present, and placed between them chasm of blood, deep, dark ,and seemingly impassable. During the ten ears thereafter our land had no rest; social revolutions, civil commotions, the offspring of alien oppression and triumphing tyranny, threatened, as with the ominous rumblings and heavings of an earthquake, to overturn and engulf the little that the war had left stand,ng, to make the ruin irretrievable, to rend deeper and widier the bloody chasm, and fill it deeper still with blood. I see among my hearers a few survivors of those who lived through those fearful years. They remember as I do that worse than war time period. Small wonder is it that during those years of chaos, confusion and gloom, the South neither looked at her past nor regarded
her future. Small wonder is it that, stunned and bewildered in her matchless woe, and driven desperate by unequalled disasters, when the hearts of men were failing them, and hope Car alina as "The Prostrate State" when a pitying world spoke of south Carolina the past were obscured and small wonder is it, I say, that the memortes of her eyes to the hopeless future It is when the future is hopeless that the past is buried, and the fature. Thent with is ander is that the South present is fraught win danger. and peon. and add to history a redder page than the records of the French Revolution.

Happily the South has emerged from the darkness and the danger she has passed from out the cloud; she now looks before and after; hope broods dovelike on her brightening future; and her eye instinctively the marks of desolation and with stout heart striven to rebuild the shat tered fabric of her national life. And her voice is to her educated sons and daughters to preserve for her children and her children's children the history of her glorious past, the records of her triumphs, and her trials, the story of the great things that were done for her by her worthy sons of
the olden time, the examples of the noble lives which crowned her head with honour, and endued her arm with strength, and made her history forever memorable and ilustrious.

Some there are among us who would have us believe that the past his tory of the South has no lessons for us now, no lighrto guide nor beacon to warn us, no voice for us to heed nor example for us to follow. They even speak of a New South. They tell us that a new South has arisen with
which the old South has nothing to do and nothing in common; that, leavwhich the old South has nothing to do and nothing in common; that, leav
ing the dead past to bury its dead, we should turn our back upon our ing the dead past to bury its dead, we should turn our back upon our
country's history and turn our faces to her future. As well go tell the mariner to leave the shore without chart or compaass and sail through unknown seas. What can the future do for us? It is a dark mysterious region, hiding in it both gladness and sorrow, but giving us neither guidance nor hetp. To the future we stretch out our hands in vain, in rain do we call to it for aid; we see nothing in the darkness, we hear nothing in the
silence. What can the present do for us? Its innumerable voices are inarticulate; its countless purposes are as yet untried; and its numberless projects without form and substance; we are stunned by its Babel-like
clamour and bewildered by its confusion and unrest. To the past alone
may we look for help; to the past we must call to guide us; and is it dea may we
and dumb?

## Ah no! the voices of the dead <br> Sound like a distant torrents fall

And answer.
Ah no! the voices of the dead'sound lkie a distant torrent's fal and answer.
It is the voice of the generations that are gone which alone has fo as articulate utterance. The voice of the past alone gives forth no uncer ain sound. And woe be to that people who turn a deaf ea roto that voice The strength of Rome was sapped and her ruin came swift and sure when her Forum was trodden by men who had forgotten or heeded not the story of their ancestors, and who recked not of those mighty men of yore the Consuls, Tribunes, and Imperators, whose valour and wisdom had clothed Rome with power and majesty and exalted her to be the mistress
of the world. And when France, in one mad whirlwind of revolutionary assion, demolished her socal and political fabric, and obliterated the passion, demolished her socal and political fabric, and obliterated the oubtful successes and repeated failures, of which the end is not yet. Now look from France across the narrow channel and contrast her with England. Great as England's history is, the outstanding fact in her his England. Great as England's history is, the outstanding fact in her
tory is her fathfulness to her traditions and to the teachings of that his tory is her fathfulness to her traditions and to the teachings of that his
tory. Strong as England is, her strength lies in her wise conservatism which enables her to undergo momentous changes with safety and accom plish revolutions without bloodshed. Her ruling principle is "the imme morial custom of England." This is the source of royal prerogative, of parliamentary privilege, and of that just pride in the commons that makes the poor man's house his castle. This is the foundation of that British continuity of national life and custom which political and even religious changes have never seriously affected. This is her supreme law, for Eng land's Common Law is only the history of England.

Shall, then, these Southern States sever themselves from their memorable past? Nay; let us take heed. Recognizing their obligations to pre serve the records of the past and emulate its examples, let the educated sons and daughters of the South sit at the feet of their venerable mothe and listen to the lessons she teaches. It is high time to learn those lessons, if, for example, we would maintain those State's Rights which the fram ers of our Constitution thought they had secured for us. It is time to look across the chasm riven by the Civil War. The crimson cloud has dis appeared that once hung over us and like a curtain divided the presen from the past. And now it is our high duty, in this calm of peace, to go back into our historic past and save and perpetuate all that was preciou there.

Young men of the South $y_{y}$ yours is a grave responsibility. - When you recall the names of the great Southerners of former times, the statesmen, the scholars, the judges, the divines, the orators, are you not constrain-
ed in humility to ask, "Who is sufficient for these things?" If you would d in humility to ask, "Who is sufficient for these things?" If you would e their worthy successors, enter the picture gallery of the past and gaze
everently upon their portraits. Bring those portraits forth before the olours grow dim and the lines fade away; hold them up to the admira tion and veneration of your countrymen. Copy their example and adopt heir standards of lfe and action. Read and learn the record of those il lustrious men who, born it may be in a $\log$ cabin, were touched in some r-field school as with a live coal from the altar of Iearning, whose youthful hands alternate held the plough and thumbed the old gray book:
who paid for their college education out of the hard-carned savings of who pald forhing; who with toilsome step and slow climbed the ladder of
school pure and lofty ambition, till their brows were laurelled with honours, and (CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

