

THE INSTITUTE FOR ANACYCLOSIS

EXCERPT FROM  
CHILDE HAROLD'S PILGRIMAGE  
BY LORD BYRON

1818 A.D.

*Note: This text from Byron, an excerpt from a poem that was used by Thomas Cole in promoting his own series of paintings named "The Course of Empire," succinctly condenses the author's observations and thoughts on historical recurrence.*

Canto IV

...

CVIII

There is the moral of all human tales;  
'Tis but the same rehearsal of the past,  
First Freedom, and then Glory -- when that fails,  
Wealth, vice, corruption, -- barbarism at last.  
And History, with all her volumes vast,  
Hath but *one* page, -- ...

...

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