



**The Monmouth College
Department of Classics
presents the Thirty-First Annual
Bernice L. Fox Classics Lecture**



America a New Rome? Reflections on Decline and Fall

by

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Three great events occurred in 1776: the first edition of *the Encyclopedia Britannica*, the American Revolution, and the publication of Edward Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. All three are related to the most important question any historian can ask, "Why do nations rise and fall?" As Romans and Americans alike saw their history, they rose quickly from small settlements to great states, both became great military powers and centers of culture, and their languages became spoken across the known world. In recent years the decline of American influence in the world has invited comparisons with Gibbon's model. Is this justified?



7:30 P.M.

Monday, February 29, 2016

Pattee Auditorium

**Center for Science & Business 100
Monmouth College. Monmouth, Illinois**

This lecture series was established in 1985 to honor Dr. Bernice L. Fox who taught Classics at Monmouth College from 1947 until 1981. The goal of this series is to illustrate the continuing importance of Classical studies in the modern world and the intersection of the Classics with other disciplines in the liberal arts.