Chapter XVII: The Hotel

The Blithedale Romance

Upon Coverdale’s return to the city, he has time to ponder things. One conclusion he comes to is that, “It is likewise to be remarked, as a general rule, that there is far more of the picturesque, more truth to native and characteristic tendencies, and vastly greater suggestiveness, in the back view of a residence, whether in town or country, than in its front.”

Do you agree with his assessment? Can this same idea be applied on a broader scale? Write an essay in which you explain Coverdale’s statement, and apply it to the themes of the novel as a whole.