

that Henry Maine declared, "There can be no delusion greater than democracy is," the democracy of America stands and elevates and enriches the lives of more than sixty million freemen. The constitution of the United States which so far marks the flood tide of human freedom, Mr. Gladstone has pronounced to be the most wonderful work ever struck off in a given time by the brain of man. That instrument was not struck off in a given time. It is the recorded instrument of a race that has struggled for centuries to determine what shall be the powers for governing and a race of the government.

Back of that instrument struck off in a given time by stern men is the trial by jury; back of the constitution is the petition;—back of the constitution is *habeas corpus* act, and back of all these is the persistent and progressive spirit of the English people. It has remained for the people of America to inspire with their spirit the idea of democracy and to give it permanency and dignity by inducting its principles in law and shaping its sentiments into governments. It has remained for the people of America to declare that man endowed with the God-given powers of thought and feeling shall be more than a block of stone—shall be a being erect and free, charged with the obligations of patriotism and the duties of citizenship.

The work of America stops not with one country. So long as the kingly crown rests on the head of royalty—so long as men live under the delusion that the rights of administration are the favors of kings, so long will her mission remain unfulfilled. And if it be true of France that she is the savior of nations, how much more truly can it be said of our own country, "She is the teacher of nations." Not by war—not by blood, but by the force of a high example—by her unequaled prosperity—by the ever increasing patriotism of her people and the ever widening influence shall America teach the nations of the world the worth and truth of the true democracy.

My friends, to-night do the nations of the earth hear the voice of this triumphant democracy? Ask Dom Pedro and the old emperor points to a republic yet giving utterance to a trembling dynasty. The heathen king of Egypt and Persia's despotic shah alike are yielding to the invincible word of the masses. Belgium and Holland are raising their heads, and even the down trodden populace of Russia has heard the cry. The English queen ruling only in affairs of pomp and ceremony, hears the deep tones of old Independence bell, vibrating in every land. From all humanity has gone up the same anthem and it will be sung till every soul beneath the stars is free. In the golden dawn of a coming day democracy will be king. God save that king!

THE PURITAN AND CAVALIER.

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The Puritan and the Cavalier colliding formed modern England; uniting established our republic. The Cavalier sprang from chivalry, the flower of feudalism, a chivalry fostered by caste and maintained by princes. He defended the king against usurpation of power by party or sect; he upheld the royal prerogative. The Puritan was born of freedom of thought and action. His awakened conscience revolted against the power of caste in church and state; he combined religious independence with civil liberty. Law incarnate in royalty was the embodiment of cavalierism; law and liberty the basis of puritanism.

While the Cavalier was reinstating the monarchy overthrown by Cromwell, the Puritan was founding our republic. Subsequently, however, the Cavalier imprinted his vigor and statesmanship upon our constitution and declaration of rights. His lofty principles of liberty were accompanied by irrepressible buoyance and knightly gallantry. "He knew how to live gracefully, fight stoutly and die honorably." With austere face and uncharitable mien, the Puritan of New England stands upon the canvas of history a sombre, ungraceful figure, void of the delicate colorings of gentleness and forms of politeness. His character was an example of simple, rugged, but genuine manhood. His doctrine read, "Faith in God, faith in man, faith in works"—a creed ample for this life and that which is to come. Threatened by a common enemy, the chivalrous Cavalier of Virginia stood side by side with the stalwart Puritan of New England; Washington, Jefferson, Lee and Patrick Henry; Hancock, Green, Putnam and Adams. Such were the characters—refined by the Roman, the French and the Norman; tempered by the Angle, the Saxon and the Briton—that established our republic.

Pointing to the revolutionary soldier, the world exclaimed, "An American!" But no, the American was not yet. The Puritan and the Cavalier by the issue of the revolution were not amalgamated. Adhering to hereditary traits and inclinations they effected distinctive developments. The Cavalier founded his civilization upon caste. With him property was for the few, education for the few, labor for the negro. Slavery dulled the conscience, impoverished the masses, and made a feudal despot of every planter. The Puritan, attracted to a climate congenial to his sterling energies, founded his civilization upon the cottage home. Follow him through the sturdy commonwealths permeated by his spirit of progress; see the foundries, factories, churches, colleges and common schools—the monuments of material development and intellectual freedom. The South, Virginia branded with the mark of retrogression; the North, Massachusetts stamped with the elements of progress. Caste, sovereignty and bonded labor produced Hayne and Calhoun; the excessive animus of slavery brought forth Quantrell's band, the Vonker brothers, and John Wilkes Booth. Free labor and free thought developed Garrison, Phillips and—will you deny it?—John Brown, who, his great soul bursting with sympathy for the bondmen, dared a nation, and fell—traitor or patriot—a martyr to his convictions.

Politically the Puritan and the Cavalier were intensely partisan, opposed the one to the other. It was well; opposition and antagonism underlie progress; we recognize greatness by comparison. Superiority is worthy of pride in the degree that rivals are mutually worthy of respect. It matters very little which party dominates, but which achieves the greatest good. The inherent tendencies of the North and South produced from the beginning different interpretations of the constitution. Individuality developed; interest widened; thought diverged; opinion ripened into argument, which culminated into that matchless debate of 1830. With all the elegance of rhetoric and an ardor worthy of a more righteous cause, Robert Hayne then set forth the precepts of southern chivalry, state rights and caste sovereignty—the mutterings of the great rebellion. The reply comes like a thunderbolt. Daniel Webster, with loftier genius, more convincing logic and a holier cause, addresses a senate while a nation listens. The occasion grows upon him. His great arm rises and falls with the deep cadence of his voice. His ponderous sentences well up from the full fountain of federal unity. He strips from iniquity the splendid garb of chivalry and shatters the fallacies of state rights. Then clank the shackles of four million slaves; then Freedom's shout rings round the world; then the solemn vow of the great North goes thundering up to heaven. "This union shall be preserved."

Partisanship had now become sectionalism; under the former a republic is capable of the highest development; under the latter there remains but a step of disunion. In the light of history the question is not "Why should there have been war?" but "How was war so long averted?" The North and the South, fortified alike by logic and eloquence, would make no concessions, accept no compromise. War was the only arbiter. It confirmed the principles of the Puritan, revolutionized the civilization of the Cavalier, and vindicated once for all our free institutions. And, more, it broke down partition walls; it facilitated communication between the North and the South; it united commercial interests. It smoothed the way for northern industry and individuality to permeate the South and for the genial temperament and warm hearted hospitality of the South to enter northern society. It softened prejudices; it quickened the pulse of civilization; it enlightened. It was good. The civil war was the consecration of our republic. For it cut the nerves of sectionalism and bound the North and South together with cords of peace. It made possible the ultimate fusion of the Puritan and Cavalier tendencies. These the full-rounded American character must embody. For a national character must be the resultant of those energies within the nation which are dominant and representative. The American character has not yet come to the citizen masses, but the type has appeared. It is found in him—Cavalier by birth, a Puritan by education—at whose sudden taking off strong men wept like children and the national pulse stood. Yes, "From the union of the Puritan and Cavalier, slow perfecting through a century, from the straightening of their purposes and crossing of their blood came one who stands as the first typical American, who first comprehended within himself all the strength and gentleness, all the majesty and grace of this republic—Abraham Lincoln. He was greater than Puritan, greater than Cavalier. For in his ardent nature were fused the virtues of both, and in the depths of his