

are concerned we are indebted for our discovery, our settlement, our origin, our language, our ideas of life, liberty, and Christianity solely to our British and Anglo-Saxon sires. From the Atlantic to the Pacific; from the impenetrable ice fields of the far North to the waters of the Gulf of Mexico at the south, we, the people of this great republic, already recognized as the "Greater Britain," we the largest and leading English-speaking people of the world,—owe nothing to Spain, nothing to Columbus, nothing to Rome." Our debt of filial gratitude is due for our nation-making, for our popular freedom, for our liberty of conscience, for our personal, individual independence, for our spiritual, ecclesiastical, political rights and privileges to our British sires who first discovered the North American mainland and claimed its vast extent for England's church and state against all the world beside, and who for centuries maintained their claim in hand-to-hand strife against the Latin peoples, French and Spanish, and the imperfect Christianity of Rome.

It was the year of grace, 1497, that John Cabot, who had again and again, during that decade of discovery, sailed from Bristol, England, westward on the quest of lands unknown, discovered the North American mainland. Landing at the shore first seen, the *prima vista* of this earliest discovery of the continent, Cabot planted a