

THE UNION OF TWO GREAT PEOPLES.

I CANNOT tell you how deeply you move me by your generous English and warm-hearted Devon welcome.

I know that in spite of your good will to me your welcome far transcends any mere personal compliment. What you are here for and the reason you show me this marked honour is that I am the representative of your kinsmen across the sea. (Cheers.)

It gives me supreme pleasure to stand in this historic spot facing the statue of your great admiral, Sir Francis Drake—I will say “our” great admiral (hear, hear)—and near the place where the *Mayflower* last left land, and to see you who are of the same race of people, kindred to them, I dare say, who sailed away to carry your ideas of freedom into the New World. We bring back that same idea of freedom for the relief of the imperilled freedom of the world. (Cheers.)

I shall never forget that it is on this historic spot that His Majesty's forces by sea and land do me the honour to place themselves in beautiful line, and they do my country thereby the honour to express our kinship in blood and in the high purpose of the task that now engages us. The *Mayflower* sailed from here nearly three hundred years ago with its precious freight. There have come back American warships, no doubt with the descendants of those same men, and on the soil of our gallant Army across the Channel there are already landed American troops to join yours. (Cheers.)

The great Republic that I have the honour to represent has, in the Providence of God, been prosperous. The