

This state of mind, sometimes carried to fantastic lengths that appear simply nauseating to the citizen of a newer country, where all men are supposed to be born equal, is, on the other hand, exhibited in a diluted form in that exceedingly attractive characteristic of the Englishman, his generous admiration of, and ready homage to, any man whom he conceives to be a better man than himself in whatsoever particular it may happen to be,—a generosity of appreciation which, I may say, appears to me to be rather lacking in the characteristics of both Canada and the United States.

I very well remember once in my young days witnessing a foot-ball match, which after a most exciting and breathless struggle was finally won by a splendid kick made from nearly half way up the field. After the battle was over, and the two teams were straggling, sore and muddy, to the pavilion, I saw one of the losing side, an "honourable," that is, a lord's son, clap on the shoulder the young giant, a local butcher, who had made the winning kick with the remark, "By Jove, old man, that was a damned fine kick of yours: do you always kick like that?" There was not the slightest shade or intention of patronage in the act. It was merely a spontaneous tribute to the superior kicking powers of the one from the other who would not, as a social question, have recognized his existence at all.

This spirit is in sharp contrast with the real hostility and bitterness which seems to animate, all too frequently, the contestants in any team rivalry in Canada or the United States, and particularly with the common tendency to belittle the prowess of the adversary by ascribing their success to luck or unfairness.

For nearly a century after the accession of the Third William, in spite of the vague belief generally prevalent that the political stability of England was thenceforth established beyond serious menace, as a matter of fact, the return of the exiled Stuart family, through the agency of a French invasion and with the accompaniment of upheaval, ravage, and desolation, was an exceedingly vital and pressing every-