

passengers, specially the men, were conspicuous by an affected and swaggering enunciation of their words. Suddenly, the truth dawned upon me. For the first time in my life I was listening to "English as she is spoke."

It were a weary and ungrateful task to add up the vices and virtues of the two nations, and strike a nice balance, even were any member of either sufficiently experienced and unprejudiced to be able to do so with any degree of accuracy.

Is it not a truer philosophy that would teach us to leave comparisons alone and be content to admire generously and honestly what is to be admired in the American nation?

From their freshness and freedom of thought, the "old country" need not disdain to learn some valuable lessons in exchange for the more unquestioned advantages of art and historical tradition, for which the New World must still worship at the shrine of the older one.

I have endeavoured to write honestly, and, so far as is possible, without prejudice of what I have seen and heard. In spite of such endeavours, many will doubtless be found to dispute most of my facts and almost all my conclusions.