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### PREFATORY NOTICE.

So much controversy has been aroused by the delivery of this discourse, and so wide and general have been the criticisms which it has elicited, that its publication becomes a duty. Those who are at all familiar with the author and his published utterances for the last seven or eight years will recognize in this address the latest statement of the writer's contention that, despite the ill-fated Tom Paine's assertion to the contrary, America is, in all that tends to its greatness and glory, historically as well as by descent and race affinity, the child of England rather than of Europe. To this we may add that in all of the various elements that go towards nation-making, in our language, our features, our ideas of life, liberty, and law, in our civil and ecclesiastical freedom, in our tolerance, in our intellectual strength, in our manners, customs, and faith, we owe nothing to the Latin peoples or the Roman Church of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, "nothing to Columbus, nothing to Spain, nothing to Rome."