

but the English became at last the dominant race in the country, and it was men of English birth, or English descent, who, in 1776, took into their own hands the government of their own country.

Quite different has been the part played by Spain in the New World. Without entering into the history of the atrocities committed in other parts of America, we here confine ourselves to denying that Spain took any considerable or useful share in the founding of the United States. A settlement in Florida, which was ceded to England, in exchange for Havana, in 1753, the latter place having been captured during the war, and a line of missions and other settlements along the Pacific coast—these were the chief claims that could be made by Spain to anything like a share in the honor of having helped to found or form the present nation. And these amount to virtually nothing. The honor is due, not to the proud and selfish Spanish grandees—so ably drawn by Kingsley in his immortal "Westward Ho!"—but rather to the Cabots, to the Drakes, Grenvilles, and Raleighs, who braved the power of Spain and defeated her hugest armadas, thereby arresting, in its full career and in the height of its power, a double tyranny of Church and State, which, had it been allowed to hold its course unchecked, would infallibly have strangled, in its earliest infancy, the civilization and freedom of which America now so loudly boasts. When the mines and treasure-houses of Aztecs and Incas had been exhausted, when the last Indian had succumbed to the white man's fetters or the white man's faith, what would have been the condition of the country, under a purely

Spanish resources at would not being due Spain, they degree of central and Southern to the same through the other advancement mother country across the American continent has shown such collection as will be seen fitting reminders events, did not