

according to the character, intelligence, and social condition of a nation; and that all are equally beneficent after their kind, which at a given time and under given circumstances, suit the requirements of the people. Would that our statesmen, who turn Indian Zemindars into squires, and press upon the untrained Greeks a parody of the English Constitution, were a little more conscious of this great truth. The Americans, for their part, seem not wholly unconscious of it. Though Republicans themselves, they show no fanatical hatred of our monarchy. They receive the heir to the English throne with demonstrations of enthusiastic affection, and I believe Queen Victoria reigns in their hearts as completely as she does in ours.

Indeed, if my heart were set upon a republic of the classical kind—the republic of Brutus and Cassius and the debating clubs—I should look for it in the seceding States, or anywhere rather than in a land of political equality and social justice. The classical republics were based on Slavery: the political character of their citizens was that of a dominant caste maintained in proud idleness by the labour of servile hands: and this character is avowedly imitated by the Southerners, though more successfully in point of courage and military vigour than in point of cultivation and refinement. I wonder it has never occurred to those who were exulting over the failure of republican institutions, and in the same breath lauding the political greatness of the South, that the South also is a republic, with exactly the same constitution as the North in all essential respects, saving the article which prohibits the Southern