

that our institutions should be those of liberty-loving Englishmen, and not such as the tyrannous Spaniard forced upon Mexico and the South American peoples at the point of the sword. Pope and President have of late years called upon us in allocution and proclamation to celebrate the discovery of America by Columbus. Let us in our gratulations, public and private, and in our felicitations that the new world, often discovered before, was opened four centuries ago to the knowledge and possession of all the nations of Europe, heartily thank God that Columbus did not at least discover the territory of the United States or even the North American continent; and that we as a people owe neither discovery, colonization, institutions, freedom, faith or speech to Spain or Rome. The bull of Borgia,[†] whose elevation to the papacy was secured by simony, whose life was grossly impure, and whose career displayed his utter selfishness, as well as his irreligious and profound contempt of ecclesiastical propriety and decorum, was not, by the reckless trac-

[†] Pope Alexander VI (Rodrig Borgia), as we learn from the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, is "memorable as the most characteristic incarnation of the secular spirit of the fifteenth century." "Profligate alike in public and private life, destitute of morality, unblushingly licentious, 'the simoniacal character of his election' to the papacy 'is indisputable.' His business were recruited by the open sale of ecclesiastical offices and spiritual privileges of every kind. He elevated his second natural son, Caesar, to the Cardinals at the age of eighteen, an blushing perjury being resorted to, for the purpose of concealing his illegitimate birth. The enormity of Alexander's evil deeds is only exceeded by the effrontery with which they were performed. It was this 'holy father' who sent Savonarola to the stake."