

celebration of an event which is even now being celebrated, not only in this city, but in the Mother Country, British America, the United States, in fine, sir, over the whole world, wherever the English language is known. (Enthusiastic cheers.)

On this day, wherever Scotchmen dwell, wherever the Anglo Saxon race have fixed their domicile, men of every shade of opinion, of every station, may be found uniting together, cordially and heartily, to honor a man, who during his life time occupied a somewhat humble station, and did not receive that reward and encouragement which his transcendent genius merited.—(Rapturous applause.)

It is not my intention to descant on the poetical abilities and distinguished talent of Burns, great as they were, for after the address delivered to-day by your worthy Chairman upon that subject, it would be in vain for me to attempt to depict in more glowing colours than he did, the merits of that extraordinary man—the struggles he had to undergo, or the difficulties which beset him in the performance of the great work he had in hand. There is one point in his history, however, to which I may allude, for I think from the contemplation of it the juniors of this country may be incited to follow the noble example he set. (Cheers.)

Burns, the son of a Farmer—himself a ploughman—from his earliest youth upwards strove unceasingly to cultivate his mind, and succeeded to a degree which enabled him to produce those beautiful, those immortal poems which have gained for them universal celebrity, exhibited in the celebration of the day—an honor, I believe, never accorded to man before. He had no external aid to assist him—his birth was humble; and, sir, though I cannot be supposed to disparage the advantages of birth, if the position it confers be rightly used, yet my tendencies of mind have always induced me to honor far more the man