

and the Beaconsfields, the Forsters and the Hartingtons, the Salisburys and the Balfours, the Stafford Northcotes and the Brights of American politics, not to mention the scores of other names of men of the highest attainments and scientific or literary eminence who have adorned the benches of the British House of Commons in our generation? Do they exist in public life in America? Let an American answer: "We have always had plenty of excellent lawyers," he says, "though we have often had to do without even tolerable administrators, and seem destined to endure the inconvenience of hereafter doing without any constructive statesmen at all. * * The forms of government in America have always been unfavourable to the easy elevation of talent to a station of permanent authority. * * We have no great prizes of leadership, such as are calculated to stimulate men of strong talents to great and conspicuous public services. * * I cannot insist too much upon this defect of congressional government, because it is evidently radical. Leadership with authority over a great ruling party is a prize to attract great competitors, and is in a free Government the only prize that will attract great competitors. Its attractiveness is