

The distinguished scholar on another occasion spoke of an unrecorded debt America owed to England. Had the United States been severed from any other nation, they never could have been a free commonwealth. It was the heritage of English laws, English customs, English freedom, that made it possible to found the present Republic. Had they sprung from other powers, they might have been saddled with a concordat, a military establishment, or worse. They did not spoliage England, but they became joint owners of her Anglo-Saxon energy, her laws, and her literature.

You all remember the eulogy of Daniel Webster :

" England is a power to which, for purposes of foreign conquest and subjugation, Rome, in the height of her glory, is not to be compared ; a power which has dotted over the surface of the whole globe with her possessions and military posts, whose morning drum beat following the sun and keeping company with the hours, circles the earth daily with one continuous and unbroken strain of the martial airs of England."

It has been said that when the Gods made up the languages, they held a council, and, to the best of their ability, suited the different nations with a language; when, as they supposed, they had made all the languages needed, they found the English was forgotten, and, as it was dinner-time, they took a few words out of all the existing languages and mixed them together and gave them to the English.

Some one said :

" Fate jumbled them together, God knows how,
Whatever they were, they're true-born English now."

" Greek's a harp we love to hear,
Latin is a trumpet clear,
Spanish like an organ swells,
Italian rings its bridal bells,
France with many a frolic mien
Tunes her sprightly violin,
Loud the German rolls his drum,
When Russia's clashing cymbals come,
But Britains sons may well rejoice,
For English is the human voice."

The respect and regard for the British Constitution in American jurisprudence is no mean testimony to its sterling merit. I will cite but a single instance, because of the distinguished character of the person who, before so august assembly as the United States Supreme