

stable to the chief justice—from the journeyman-mechanic to the millionaire-merchant—from the driver of a stage or hackney coach to the driver of the coach political—even he the President ;—and among them all—men and women—there is an ease and self-possession, which are admirable—a total absence of that *gêne* and uncomfortableness of manner which is characteristic of English promiscuous society. Not one seems to dream of social inferiority or superiority : every one is perfectly at ease : there is none of the touch-me-not manner of the English gentry, or the I-am-as-good-as-you-manner of the English vulgar-rich,—none of the very unpleasant awkwardness so observable when different ranks of English Society are brought together. On the contrary, every one eats and drinks and conducts himself or herself, with a *ne plus-ultra* ease. Now, how admirable, is such an aspect of society ! It tells of the absence of all those heart-burnings and jealousies, and of the repining, caused by the recognition of ranks, which are the bane of English Society :—of the arrogant exclusiveness of nobility and gentry,—the insolent assumption of the *nouveaux-riches* :—the contumely of the proud and the mortification of the humble,—or it may be, their rage—their rebellion against social tyranny and oppression. It tells of more than that, and better,—it tells a tale of social happiness which is delightful to think of. People may say what they will about Republicanism ; but surely that which produces so pleasant and charming a result, cannot be bad.

The truth is, that we, Old English, owe a grudge to the New English, for having availed themselves of the easy defensibility of English America against the power of the Mother Country, to resist the arbitrary, despotic tendencies of the Government in the early part of George the Third's reign. We have forgiven, long ago, the affront put upon us, but we have not forgotten it ; and we take our revenge in occasional spiteful criticism on New-England peculiarities, and the flaws and cracks of Republicanism. It is human nature to do so, notwithstanding the adage, "they who live in glass houses, should not throw stones" : and, certainly, none can deny that many of our Old English peculiarities are quite as open to spiteful criticism, and that flaws and cracks in our Constitutional Monarchy, can be discerned without the aid of a magnifying glass. It is human nature, however, to fancy ourselves "perfection", and see much "imperfection" in our neighbour ; but this is rendered more evident whenever relatives quarrel and fight. They can never be thoroughly reconciled again. The wounds affection receives never thoroughly heal ; like some incurable diseases, the victims of which are discharged from hospital as "cured," but always return, till the master-tailor, Death, cuts the thread of their existence, so is it with the wounds affection receives from the well-beloved. It is notorious that the quarrels of relatives are the most difficult of all quarrels to settle amicably ; and hence no doubt it is, that we magnify Jonathan's flaws of character, and breaches of good manners, and a nasty habit or two that he has, into grand offences. In the course of time, doubtless, when new generations are on the stage

of life, who will know nothing of the heart-burnings and aches which rendered their fathers uncomfortable together, the English of Europe and America will cordially fraternize ; but, *en attendant*, they will not.—They mutually respect each other, as they cannot help doing, but invective and sarcasm and retort are indulged in to a most amusing extent, nevertheless.—*c'est plus fort qu'eux*, they cannot help it. Thus we may account for the well-feigned horror of the Englishman at Yankee Republicanism, and his hyper-sensitiveness at the expectoration of the tobacco-chewers, and his ridicule of the nasal twang of the New England voice ; and per contra, for the bitterness of speech and feeling against "the British," and the affectation of indignation at the corruptions effected by "British Gold."

The fact is, that one has not a whit better reason to criticize and ridicule, and be sarcastic and severe in speech, than the other. If there be stains on the polish, and rust on the morals, of the American English, and if the supremacy of the multitude be oftentimes abhorrent, let us bear well in mind that the richer class of both countries is very nearly alike, in manners and habits, and that if the mechanics and yeomanry and labouring portions of the population of the two countries be compared, judgment might not be pronounced in our favor ; and as to the supremacy of the multitude, many deem it far preferable to the supremacy of the few, and it must not be lost sight of, that *the multitude* in New England, are vastly better qualified to exercise the electoral suffrage than the humbler and poorer classes of Old England.

There are many signs and symptoms, though, even at the present day, that the people of the United States are beginning to overcome their born prejudice against the British. There is a break in the gloomy sky which has overhung the sentiments of the two portions of the Anglo-Saxon race : we begin to see daylight through the blackness of prejudice and hostility. The proportions of the Republic which are rapidly being developed into majestic power, inspire with respect, even against his will, that very choleric old gentleman who rejoices in the name of John Bull ; and, as the consciousness of power and strength is brought more directly home to the hearts and minds of the States' people, they smile contemptuously upon what formerly annoyed and irritated them beyond measure, namely, the pert criticism and unjust sarcasm of British writers and travellers. Formerly, the 4th July orations were invariably furiously better declamations against British tyranny and injustice and calumny ; the inhabitants of the 13 colonies were always pictured as a gallant, high-spirited people, groaning beneath the weight of tyranny and clanking the chains of slavery ; their war for independence filled all the clarions of eloquence ; no terms were too bitter or violent against "the British," none too laudatory of themselves. Of late, however, they find something else to talk about in these orations : they begin to acknowledge that the people of the 13 Colonies never were slaves at any time,—and that British Rule was not so Russian and Turkish