

since Egbert, it has in the last centuries obtained the ascendant, and stamped the knowledge, activity, and power of mankind with its impress. Those who resist it do not feel it or obey it less. The Russian in his snows is aiming to be English. The practical common sense of modern society, the utilitarian direction which labor, laws, opinion, religion take, is the natural genius of the British mind. The influence of France is a constituent of modern civility, but not opposed to the English for the most wholesome effect. The American is only the continuation of the English genius into new conditions. See what books fill our libraries. Every book we read, every biography, play, romance in whatever form, is still English history and manners."

In his speech at Manchester he said:

"That which gives a solitary American in the woods a wish to see England is the moral peculiarity of the Saxon race—its commanding sense of right and wrong—the love and devotion to that; this is the imperial trait which arms them with the sceptre of the globe."

Edward Everett, the distinguished American orator, who at one time represented the United States at the Court of St James, fifty years ago used the following language:

"It must be conceded that of all the States of Europe, England has been from an early period the most favored abode of liberty, the only part of Europe where, for any length of time, constitutional liberty can be said to have a stable existence. I am not the panegyrist of England, am not dazzled by her riches, nor awed by her power. The sceptre, the mitre, and the coronet, stars, garters, and and blue ribbons, seem to me poor things for great men to contend for. Nor is my admiration awakend by her armies, mustered for the battle fields of Europe, her navies overshadowing the ocean, nor her empire overshadowing the farthest east. It is these and the price of guilt and blood, by which they are too often maintained, which are the cause why no friend of liberty can salute her with undivided affections. But it is the cradle and the refuge of free principles, though often persecuted, the school of religious liberty, the more precious for the struggles through which it has passed, the tombs of those who have reflected honor on all who speak the English tongue; it is the birthplace of our fathers, the home of the Pilgrims, it is these which I love and venerate in England. I should feel ashamed of an enthusiasm for Italy and Greece, did I not feel it for a land like this. In an American it would seem to me degenerate and ungrateful to hang with passion upon the traces of Homer and Virgil, and follow without emotion the nearer and plainer footsteps of Shakespeare and Milton. I should think him cold in his love for his native land, who felt no melting in his heart for that other native country which holds the ashes of his ancestors."