

can only represent that which exists, and therefore where and when there is no quality, there can be no name as an equivalent for it. Still there was one feature to be found in heathen nations, and a very glorious human feature it was, and that was patriotism. The love of country was indeed a burning flame in the heart of Greek, Roman, and indeed of all the nations known to history. Whatever may have been the sins and defects of any particular people, they were ready to die for the father land. Such a sentiment as love for one's country is as natural and as universal as love for one's kin. It is as widespread as poetry and music. In every land you find national music, the folk songs, which, wherever heard, will stir the heart and moisten the eye of one, to whom they are dear and familiar, and every country has its bards, though their names may in some cases not be known beyond the confines of their own territory. Beautiful and sacred is this flame of true patriotism. It may of course be narrowed and prejudiced, so as to engender blindness as to defects and abuses, which may exist, and which ought to be remedied. This has been particularly laid to the door of the English. We have been charged with loving and admiring and upholding everything that is English, because it is English, and thereby being blinded to the need and advantage of change and progress. There is no doubt that as a nation we have laid ourselves open to this charge, but travel has widened our vision, and made us realise that we have not monopolized all the perfections and excellencies of the whole earth. Still, making allowances for narrowness and ultra conservatism, which yet exist among us, we need not be ashamed of the glow of pride which warms our hearts, when we feel that we are either by birth or descent sons of that nation, which, taking everything into consideration, stands foremost in the great roll of civilized peoples—that nation in which the truest liberty is to be found, the nation which, while it upholds law and order, offers almost boundless civil and religious freedom—the nation that is ever redressing abuses, which are the heritage of the past, and always more and more securing the rights of men, the nation whose public men are incorruptible, and which does not impose a yoke of ecclesiastical tyrannv upon the neck of any one, the nation whose language is likely ere very long to be the tongue of this world, and that can number as its

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