

W. W. ASTOR AND CLIVEDEN.

**The American Criticised for Closing
the Place to Sightseers and Ac-
cused of Bad Manners.**

LONDON, Feb. 3.—The Daily Chronicle to-day publishes a letter, signed "English Citizen," in which, after referring to the beauties of Cliveden, the residence near London of William Waldorf Astor, and the "liberty the former noble owners allowed the public in the park, gardens, and house," the writer continues:

"A few years ago the property was sold to a rich American. First the park was surrounded by a hideous wall, covered with broken glass, and access thereto and to the house was forbidden. Even a spring of water, which for a century has been open to the public, quite distant from the house, is now closed, and the iron grille gate in the old park wall, allowing a view of the house and avenue, has been pulled down, and a dead, blank wall is now building in its place, so sacred is the privacy of the present owner."

After alluding to the fact that the public is admitted to two great estates adjoining Cliveden, the writer of the letter adds:

"No reasonable man wishes to prevent Americans or citizens of other States from inhabiting our country; but, if they wish to do so, their first duty is to show decent respect for the customs of their adopted country. Failing this, it becomes a duty to ask whether there is no way of teaching them good manners."

Referring to the old principle of English law, "once a highway always a highway," the writer says:

"Under ordinary circumstances there is no wish to press the maxim; but, when we see so gross a violation of the ordinary rules of courtesy in English life, we may fairly take advantage of the law intended to keep the enjoyment of right of way on English soil open forever to Englishmen and give a lesson to wealthy strangers who would not dare to strain the rights of property in their own countries."