

realize at the opening of the nineteenth century that they have a larger stake in this westward movement than any other nation. In the valley of the Columbia Anglo-Saxons of the old and new branches meet. The English branch has allied with it the strength of the native races, but it has also the old mediaeval organization and aims. These were absorbed partly from the French on the way across the continent and partly from the elements of paternalism in the charter of the Hudson's Bay Company. The American home-building individualism and democracy against which the English feudalism was pitted was on its own ground in the Columbia wilderness. It had been developed as a new civilization in wilderness winning. Unless other factors represented at the centers of the national strength of each nation were brought into the contest the outcome was inevitable. Youth and age of the same race confronted each other. Or rather a higher social organization had met to overcome a lower.

In the larger apportionment of the continent as a whole among the European nations who had aided in disclosing it, the outcome turned on the same principles. Degree of utilization determined destiny. The basis of national strength is secured through the utilization of the energies of the environment. The people that make the highest and largest use of their means will always win. American individualism was wonderfully adapted to the work of penetrating and subduing the wilderness. But a new work is now at hand. Requisites for highest welfare ever new are demanded.

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