

tions and prejudices at once occur to the minds of many persons on both sides of the line. There are Canadians who think it would mean invasion by Standard Oil, the Yellow Press, the political boss, and Judge Lynch. There are Americans who imagine that our so-called monarchy is a serious clog to our democracy and progress, and might be so to such a movement. I only mention this notion to reply that in the old sense monarchy has passed away in the British Empire, and exists to-day as a convenient form of presidency, absolutely subservient to the popular will, and keeping up a few historical forms indicative of continuity.

The matter now under discussion is a matter primarily for the Canadian people and the American people. If they agree, the rest of the Empire will be well satisfied. To some Canadians the rapprochement between the two peoples would smell of Annexation, and thus of the death of that national ideal which so deeply attracts us. But this does not follow. There are all kinds of Bunds, ententes and alliances in the world. The Hellenic States had their Panhellenic Council. Spain and Austria were bound together under Charles the Fifth, without a whit lost of national autonomy, and that in a crude age. The Dreibund in Europe has worked very effectively for purposes of war. The British Empire itself is solving its scattered problems by the principle of a great periodic family Conference. Why not, in these days of rapid communication, of reason, of enlightenment, the nearby and practical matter of an Americanian Conference, and with it a united English-speaking world, resistless and beneficial as we all know it will be when petty distrusts and foolish harkings back to dead pasts shall have given way to harmony, friendship, reason and sensible business.