

Talk to such a man, and, although he will begin with phrases about what a very magnificent country Australia is, it is only a few minutes before he is enthusiastic about his own State and is making disparaging comments upon the other States. When a young farmer leaves Ontario and goes west to the wheat stretch beyond Winnipeg, there is delight that he has gone to another part of Canada to make it fruitful. When young farmers move from Victoria to Queensland, there are wailing regrets in Victoria, as though they had emigrated to a foreign land.

Australia has now a Federal Parliament—and great good to the nation must come as a consequence. But the State Legislatures still continue, controlling the land and the railways, for instance. As a matter of fact, there has grown up a fear in the States that Federal Government will decrease their importance, that they may be called upon to contribute money one of these days for great public services, not to the benefit of Australia—few will consider that proud aspect—but for the benefit of some other State. It is just as though the taxpayers of Birmingham objected to pay for naval defence on the ground that they could not be subjected to naval attack.

The capital of each State is the meeting-place of the State Legislature. But where is the Federal Legislature to take up its permanent habitation? At present it is in temporary assemblage at Melbourne. For it to remain there would put Sydney into hysterics of indignation, and for it to be