

more from human nature than is warranted by our experience of the world. The Provinces, once separated upon such an issue, there would be an end of friendship, of mutual sympathy, and co-operation.

"To be wroth with those we love
Doth work like madness" in the brain."

The greater the affection the more intense the hatred. The Colonies, whose pride had been thus wounded—whose birthright had been denied—whose friendship had been undervalued—who had been cast, like Ishmael, without the charmed circle of home-thoughts and filial obligation—would form new ties, and contract Transatlantic, Asiatic, or European alliances. Friends and sympathisers enough, believe me, they would soon find; and they would grow and flourish, but with their growth would grow also the root of bitterness; and at least one generation of Englishmen would have to die, perhaps twenty, before this national eviction was forgotten or forgiven.

Take the group of Provinces which I know best. For a century their inhabitants have lived under the Crown of England, but for only twenty years of that long period have they had constitutional control over their internal affairs. Over their relations to the rest of the world they have at this moment no control. Though California, three thousand miles away, is represented at Washington—though Algeria is represented at Paris—the noble North American Provinces, with their boundless territory and resources, and four millions of people, have no representation in London. You admit us to representation in your Industrial Exhibitions, but from that great arena of intellectual display, on which the finer minds of North America and of all the Colonies might occasionally shed some lustre, you carefully exclude us. Our columns of gold and our pyramids of timber may rise in your crystal palaces, but our statesmen in the great councils of the Empire, never.

Our courts may exhibit the boundless resources and advanced civilization of the Colonies, but the men they produce you regard as inferior at all times, except when the Empire is to be defended; then they are to be tasked beyond their strength, and are expected to rise to the dignity of citizenship, from which at all other times they are carefully excluded. Is this fair? Is it just?

You will not deny that Norway and Wirtemberg, with their million and a half of people—Saxony, with its two millions—even Oldenburg and Brunswick, with their quarter of a million, are treated in England with a deference and distinction never accorded in this country to the North American Provinces, with their four millions. The people of these States are foreigners; we are only Englishmen on the wrong side of the Atlantic. Does it never occur to you that you ought to elevate us to the full dignity of citizenship, before you call upon us to assume all its burthens?—that, before you ask us to share with you all the perils and cost of Empire, you should share with us its honours and distinctions? In the simple French ballad, Jeannette expresses her opinion—

"That those who make the war
Should be the men to fight."

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