

colonies and naval stations. The spectacle of German warships scouring the oceans in search of derelict islands, unappropriated deserts and defenceless promontories on which to hoist the German flag, is only too familiar. Everything worth having they found covered by the Union Jack.

In science and invention the Anglo Saxon stands pre-eminent. In the United States alone, during the year recently closed, more than twenty-nine thousand patents were issued. By his scientific discoveries in steam, steel and electricity he has almost changed the face of nature. Continents have been reduced to mere islands and oceans to channels. He has belted North America with four solid bands of steel. In the not distant future the iron horse will be snorting through the jungles, over the palmy plains and leaping the golden streams of Africa and speeding on across the plateaus and through the fertile valleys of Asia on a continuous journey from Cape Town to a port in eastern China. In but a short time he will have completed a circuit of telegraph communication extending around the world, across continents and under oceans, subject to his controlling hand. See what a change in a hundred years. On August 1st, 1798, Nelson won a brilliant triumph over Napoleon at the battle of the Nile, the news of which took two months to reach England. To-day we know the result of a battle on the other side of the world almost before the smoke has cleared away.

The English language is the growth of centuries. It contains the best essence of Teutonic, Greek, French and Latin and is peculiarly adapted to become a world language. It has been styled the most flexible, forcible, richest and grandest of all modern languages. Can we doubt this when we remember that the greatest dramatist, the greatest scientist and the greatest explorer has each contributed the results of his researches to the world in this language? At the beginning of the century twenty millions spoke the English language and to-day it is the language of one hundred and twenty-five millions. During the century recently closed the Russian language increased two hundred per cent., while ours exceeded an increase of five hundred per cent. both the French and German being behind even the Russian. In this advanced age