

bell rings, saying: "Come and dine. Come all the people from between the two oceans. Come from between the Thousand Isles and the Gulf of Mexico. Come and dine!"

Again! our nation is more fully at peace than any other. At least fifteen million of men belong to the standing armies of Europe to-day. Since we had our conflict, on the other side the sea they have had Zulu war, Afghan war, Egyptian war, Russo-Turkish war, German-French war, Japan-Chinese war. No certainty about the future. All the governments of Europe watching each other, lest one of them get too much advantage. Diplomacy all the time nervously at work. Four nations watching the Suez Canal as carefully as four cats could watch one rat.

In order to keep peace, intermarriages of royal families; some bright princess compelled to marry some disagreeable foreign dignitary in order to keep the balance of political power in Europe, the illy matched pair fighting out on a small scale that which would have been an international contest, sometimes the husband holding the balance of power, sometimes the wife holding the balance of power. One unwise stroke of Gladstone's pen after Garnet Wolseley had captured Tel-el-kebir, and all Europe would have been one battlefield. Crowded cities, crowded governments, crowded learned institutions, crowded great cities close by each other.

You get in the cars in America, and you ride one hundred or one hundred and fifty miles; then you come to a great city, as Philadelphia, as Albany, as Boston. I got on the cars at Manchester, and closed my eyes for a long sleep before I got to Liverpool. In forty minutes I was aroused out of sleep by some one saying, "We are here; this is Liverpool." The cities crowded. The populations crowded, packed in between the Pyrennes and the Alps, packed in between the English Channel and the Adriatic, so closely they cannot move without treading either on each other's heels or toes. Sceptres clashing; chariot wheels colliding. The nations of Asia and Europe this moment wondering what next. But on our continent we have plenty of room and nobody to fight. Eight million square miles in North America and all but one-fifth capable of rich cultivation, implying what fertility and what commerce! Four great basins pouring their waters into the Atlantic, Pacific, Arctic and Gulf of Mexico. Shore line of twenty-nine thousand nine hundred and sixty-nine miles. The one State of Texas with more square miles than all France, than all Germany.

That our continent might have plenty of elbow room and not be jostled by the effete governments of Europe, God sank to the depths of the sea a whole continent that once ran from off the coast of Europe to the coast of America—the continent of Atlantis—which allowed the human race to pass from Europe to America on foot, with little or no shipping; that continent dimly described in history, but the existence of which has been proved by archaeological evidences innumerable; that whole continent sunken so that a fleet of German, British and American vessels had to take deep sea soundings to touch the top of it; that highway from Europe to America entirely removed so that for the most part only the earnest and the persevering and the brave could reach America and that through long sea voyage.

Governments on the southern tip of this continent are gradually coming to the time when they will beg for annexation. On the other hand beautiful and hospitable Canada, the vast majority of the people there are more republican than monarchical in their feelings, and the chief difference between them and us is that they live on one side of the St. Lawrence and we on the other. The day will come when Canada will be found waiting for our government to propose marriage, and when we do so, she will look down and blush, and,