

together not only by sympathy, but by alliance, and not only by alliance, but also to some extent by civic rights." And Sir Charles Dilke ends one of his most interesting chapters in his *Greater Britain* by saying that, "after all, the strongest of the arguments in favour of separation is the somewhat paradoxical one, that it would bring us a step nearer to the virtual confederation of the English race." Probably both these gentlemen would include in this expected confederation the United States. Why, then, I may be asked, not rest content with this anticipation? Why is not this your "Greater Britain" of the future? And if any one thought it worth while, I might be referred to what I have already said in expectation and earnest desire of an Anglo-American alliance. I gladly repeat in Edinburgh what I ventured last year to say in New York, that my belief in the good that would follow from such an alliance to Americans, to English, and to the world, is not the least powerful of those beliefs which make me think politics worth pursuing. I repeat also my conviction, that the time will come when this alliance will be marked by some acknowledged relation between our Empire and the Republic, closer than between us or them and other nations. But I do not believe that the way to arrive at this alliance or this confederation is by encouraging our Colonies to disregard the advantages of our limited monarchy, or by tempting them to a policy of disintegration, or by yielding to the demands of local selfishness, or by so isolating them that they would be exposed to foreign solicitation, if not placed under the influence of foreign intrigue.

And now one more remark, and I have done. Supposing your hope fulfilled, I may be asked,—Would the world be the gainer? You boast of the long British coast-line; you remind us of the British lion's share of the temperate zones. You do not forget the vast regions and many millions of subject races under our rule. Do you then desire to intoxicate us with that vain-glorious love of empire which has filled the pages of history with crimes and their punishments? What is there