

Administration regarding the fast Atlantic service and the Pacific cable it becomes, abundantly evident that the Colonial Conference is bearing valuable fruit, and that the two important undertakings in question are on a fair way to accomplishment. Linked to Britain and Australia, by the cable on the one hand and the steamship line on the other, Canada will obtain, as *THE WEEK* in its current issue points out, "a position she has never occupied before, as the main highway of the British Empire." *THE WEEK*, which has just entered upon its thirteenth year of publication, has done good service in the past in the cultivation of a spirit of loyalty and unity, and in the encouragement of a patriotic sentiment among the Canadian people, and in due course it will no doubt be found that this prediction regarding Canada's destiny has been fulfilled.—*The Mail and Empire*.

* * *

A Comparison: An Epistle to the Canadian People by a New York Journalist.

BRITANNIA has good grounds to be proud of her offspring, Canada. Among the many young nations that have arisen during the last hundred and fifty years, none give greater promise of a glorious future than the people of the Dominion. Though Canada does not continually advertize herself, her standing in the world is good, her sons are welcome guests wherever they go, and thoughtful people think she has a mission to fulfill. But Canada is threatened by a danger common to youth—the influence of evil companionship. Dazzled by the wealth at the disposal of that prematurely old rake, Uncle Sam, she is half inclined to listen to his proposals. Be warned in time, O Canada! A maiden of your reputation and character should not even listen to so dissolute a fellow, but slam the door in his face. I know you have not yet accepted him, and you do not even love him. But you think of your own poverty, and cannot help regarding him as a good match. Let me give you a truthful description of his character, as he appears to those who care naught for his dimes and his dollars. Allow me to point out to you certain of your own traits which, in maidenly modesty, you overlook, and then give your decision. It will, I am sure, be worthy of your reputation.

Ambition, inherent in nations as well as individuals, leads them to expend their energy to obtain wealth, or in the pursuit of honour. It is rare that both are acquired. The possessor of vast wealth acquires a certain amount of notoriety which he fondly confounds with fame, and he who is universally honoured rarely wants bread, but great wealth and high honours are seldom conferred upon the same fortunate nation or individual. Of the two, honour, though harder to obtain, is unquestionably the most valuable. Wealth gives influence, honour confers power. Wealth does not insure respect from the noble-minded, honour and fame is certain to procure a kindly reception from the best of our race. Moreover, the majority of mankind are anxious to appear at their best before one who has gained honours. Wealth is easily lost and arouses envy, honour confers its lustre over future generations, though they may have become degenerate. Now, Uncle Sam's character is already formed. He is hopelessly lost in the greed for money. "Make it honestly, if that is the easiest way," is his maxim, "but at all cost make money." Australia has followed in his footsteps. Both have grown up under circumstances which favoured the development of the worst traits inherited from their parent nation. But you, oh Canada! Listen and compare:

"Raised under a sober sky and on comparatively poor soil, the Canadians are abstemious and simple in their habits. Hence they are vigorous, hardy, enduring. It is not too much to say that a hundred Canadians chosen at random will be found equal to a hundred average men of any nation. Now, look at the Americans.* They are sybaritic, nervous, have a dislike of violent athletic exercise, and the alarmingly small

*The millions of exceptions of Americans, to whom this description of American character does not apply, will forgive me. The people whom I describe, form, nevertheless, the great mass of Americans, the men who support average American newspapers, elect boodle politicians, institute lynchings and wrathfully depose officials who dare to administrate the laws without regard to persons. Nor do I wish those hundreds of thousands of Canadians, who are willing to sell their country for American "jobs" and dollars, to fancy that they are included in the description of the general character of the Canadians.

number of births in families who have been in the country three or four generations proves their physical degeneration. Do not be deceived by their showy contests. There are few *bona fide* amateur athletes in America, all make a business of their exercise, and the applauding masses fondly imagine that these exceptions represent the nation."

The Canadians love learning for its own sake. They generally leave school with a fair amount of *knowledge*, valuable not only as a stock in trade, but as a basis for future development of the mind. The Americans leave school—pardon! they graduate even from a *kindergarten*—with plenty of "degrees" and "certificates," but with little knowledge beyond a smattering of high-sounding phrases intended to deceive those who are still more ignorant.

A Canadian is interested in his work for its own sake. He is patient and plodding and trustworthy down to detail. As a matter of fact, this side of the Canadian character is somewhat of a drawback to the country, for European emigrants are aware that in Canada they must compete with men of sterling mould. An American is ever anxious not to do more than he is paid to do, and thinks his employer a fool if he does not watch the employed. Hence an American employer prefers to get foreigners who are not yet sufficiently acclimatized to require constant control.

A Canadian will tell you candidly that he has received this or that idea from some other man. An American steals the brainwork of foreigners and calls the process "adaptation."

Canadians of all classes admire the progress of other nations, and, while emulating them, give honour where honour is due. Americans, with a narrowness equalled by the Chinese only, insist upon being told that they are superior to all other nations in everything, and would rather be deceived than hear unpleasant truths.

The Canadians are, beyond all doubt, a soldierly race. They are quiet, sober, and amenable with regard to discipline. Their ability to recognize superiority in others insures that implicit obedience which alone makes military operations successful. The Americans are unreliable, impatient, unwilling to obey. Simple sense of duty will not for long hold them together.

Canadians can be fairly well depended upon to stand by a principle regardless of consequences. Americans will not stand by any principle if another pays better.

Canadians hold freedom to be synonymous with equal justice for all, and understand that law and justice are not always the same, though every one should obey the law. In the opinion of Americans freedom is the privilege of the strong, the brutal, the bullying, to worry the weak, the gentle and the gentlemanly.

Now, what awaits the Canadians if they unite with the Americans? Remember Uncle Sam will always be the richer of the two! *Your* sons will fight the battles of the United States so that Americans may boast of *their* victories. Your military talents will be employed to quell all attempts of the South and West to strike out for themselves, but you will have to be satisfied with second-rate positions. *Your* hands and *your* brains will gather in the wealth with which American capitalists will endow *their* children. Your sons and daughters will furnish a neverfailing stream of healthy men and women to put new life into a nation prematurely old and already *dependent* upon fresh blood from abroad for the greater part of its increase.

But if you remain independent, assisted by the careful guidance of a parent country who is getting more and more aware of your sterling character?

THEN YOU WILL RULE THIS CONTINENT!

Britons of the kind that have made Britannia what she is will always be at your service. All those who leave continental Europe because they are crowded out, all who refuse to be dubbed "undesirable emigrants" because they excel Americans in knowledge and the quality of their work, all who value justice, all those who care more for fame than for dollars—all these will swell your ranks. You will rule this continent as the Romans ruled of old—because you will be the only people capable of furnishing a righteous administration. England, shamed by you, will drop the faults which darken her otherwise sterling character, and the whole world will honour you.

Canadians—unborn generations await your decision!

New York, Nov. 29th, 1895.

AN OUTSIDER.