

what auspices can Canada reach its highest destiny. There is no reason why the Irish people should not be actuated by a similar idea, and why they should not in the future share with the Anglo-Saxon in the glories of an Empire whose greatness their own brilliant exploits have tended to achieve.

"If the peoples of the Empire could forget that there ever was a nation called English, and think only of an aggregation called British, they would find a common sink into which to pour their differences, because at the very roots of history Britain is a term wide enough to include the French, the Irish, the Scotch, the Welsh and the Anglo-Saxon, who, in his turn was first cousin of the ancestors of the Boers. The Normans, who conquered and ruled England and gave it its best blood, were ancestors of our French-Canadians. Ancient Britain was populated with Celts, of which the Irish were the most distinguished and celebrated branch. There can be no more talk of an Irish Kingdom, any more than there can be talk of the French again governing Canada, or of the Boers setting up a Dutch Republic in South Africa, except in the dreams of a few enthusiasts. Then why cannot we accept history and the inevitable and develop a patriotism common to an Empire to which we are all by force of circumstances attached. Unless by a great political catyclism it will be ages at least before the cycle of events shall have run its course, and civilized nations will have been dissolved into primordial racial elements again, if ever such a thing could be possible. New conditions have arisen among nations just as they have in the industrial and commercial world. The same principle of consolidation and aggregation of forces and centralization are at work. Germany set the pace under the great Bismarck, and Bismarckian traditions and ambitions look forward to dominating the commercial world. The great nations in the strife—perhaps not of war as of old, but of commercial control—will be Germany, the United States, France, Russia, Japan and China, (separately or in combination) and the British Empire, if it comes out of the crucible as such. The