

"home" is his country just as much as is Australia, and that what affects the Englishman affects him. Hence the growing spirit of Imperialism throughout the continent.

But you drop from Imperialism to something like parochialism in Australia, with little of the real national spirit intervening—though it exists and must increase. Here is the reason. The old settlements were made on the seaboard long before the coming of railways. For all practical purposes, the States might have been so many islands. The only communication was by sea. Indeed, to-day there is no railway communication between Western Australia and the eastern States. It takes almost as long to go from Fremantle to Adelaide as it does from Liverpool to New York. Western Australia is part of the continent, but as there is no railway communication, it is just as much severed from the rest of the continent as though an ocean flowed between.

Now this was very much the state of things in old days between New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia. Though of common stock, each State was an absolutely independent community. Each State was fired with ambition to make itself the most favoured land. The people had their independent Parliaments; separate Governors were sent out by the Crown. The States passed their own laws with no more consideration for each other than British legislation displays for uniformity with French legislation.

The old spirit of State rivalry, amounting almost