

that which he is able, and I believe is willing, to pay for himself. And, lastly, we ought to take every opportunity of showing that we consider the Colonists our countrymen, and every colony part of the common country, and especially we ought to welcome every step that any colony may take in measures of common defence. I trust I shall not be supposed to attack the present Government if I say, that I think the refusal to allow our officers in the army to keep their rank while assisting the Dominions in forming a military school, requires explanation.

May I venture on one more suggestion, which may appear, perhaps, to savour too much of my own late official occupation. I confess I think Political Geography, and especially British political geography, might be taught more generally and completely in our schools; not merely our elementary schools, but those for all classes. No boy ought to leave school, either at home or in the colonies, without knowing what the British Empire is. If he fully gains that knowledge, I think he will not seldom draw the inference that the British Empire ought to last, and determine that, so far as in him lies, he will do what he can to insure that it shall last.

I have detained you so long that I feel I must say but little more, though I am painfully conscious that I have only skirted my subject. There is, however, one probable criticism to which I must allude. I have quoted Mr. Goldwin Smith because I could not find a more able or more sincere representative of the policy of disunion; but it would be unfair to him, and to those who agree with him, not to admit that while desiring formal separation, they do at the same time desire the closest and most friendly alliance. In fact, they would appear to contemplate some form of association as the consequence of separation. For instance, Mr. Goldwin Smith, although he argues strongly against federation, states that he looks forward to "the emancipation"—that is, the independence—"of the Colonies resulting in England being the heart and centre of a great confederacy of States belonging to our own race, bound