

ment? Has not the policy towards us been dictated by that considerate and maternal regard for our future destiny which demands our gratitude, while it exacts our co-operation? What would be thought of the offspring of any parent who, after attaining a vigorous puberty, should cling with childish tenacity to the paternal roof, perpetuating a dependence, which but wasted the parent's substance, refusing in opposition to that parent's wish to enter on an independent condition, and seek an alliance which promised relief to the parent and honourable distinction to the child? Let us rather show ourselves to be the true offspring of so noble a stem—Think you, that England would have ever risen to her present pitch of greatness, had her sons in times past been content with the dependent condition we now occupy towards her, and had they indulged to the exclusion of all else, a sentiment only of attachment to a relation, to which, as men conscious of self-capacity, it became them not to adhere.

There cannot, to my mind, be a grander, a more sublime thought than that the parent state, after training her Colonial subjects to self-reliance, should, with feelings of kindred affection and pride, seek to elevate them to a position among the nations of the world, to perpetuate her institutions and secure allies, on whose affection and duty she might rely and look for succour in the time of need. Had the separation of the old Colonies been consummated in this spirit, would not their relations to the parent state have been such as I am now depicting? And, notwithstanding the irritating circumstances which accompanied their separation, time has buried much in oblivion; and who will deny that England regards with a feeling of pride, the position which her offspring now occupies among the nations of the earth. The *possibility* of a change is, no doubt, so repugnant to some, whose early associations have connected them intimately with England, that they would sooner relinquish all earthly possessions than the heritage of being Englishmen. This chivalrous and impassioned devotion I admire and respect. It emanates from the same feeling which actuates us to show our attachment to her institutions and laws, and that freedom and independence—the possession of which is our birthright. To my own feelings, I do not hesitate to avow that the idea of a change is repugnant and