

the unwillingness of Britain to forbid the arrogant intrusion of Germany into Samoa. In connection with this latter event, the resolute attitude of the United States excited the enthusiasm of all Australasians. They have felt since that the guardianship of the English-speaking races belongs to the great Republic as well as to the United Kingdom, and that, in so far as concerns the South Pacific at any rate, the Republic has a freer hand and can act more vigorously than a country which is trammelled by complicated European, African and Asian interests. Sir Charles Dilke, in his "Problems of Greater Britain," puts this moderately and correctly when he says: "New Zealand opinion, recognizing that the United States has now established its position in Samoa, prefers the Americans as neighbors in the Pacific to any European military power, and Australia agrees with New Zealand upon the point." He adds: "The sudden popularity of the United States in Australia is one of the most interesting new developments of our day." The cause is not far to seek. An Australasian Monroe doctrine has grown up among our brothers there, and they have found that the United States stood up for their future interests when Britain failed to do so. This matter was of immense importance to them, and it will be infinitely more important when a Nicaraguan or Panama canal has been constructed.

Nothing shows the depth of their feeling more than the expression given to it by Sir George Grey. This great Englishman, who left his impress on South Africa and South Australia, but who for the greatest part of his long life has identified himself with New Zealand, was more indignant with Britain's failure than even with Bismarck's brutal treatment of Samoa and its king. To Sir George,

Britain had deliberately sacrificed the Samoans, under stress of Bismarck's scarcely veiled threat that otherwise Germany would take sides with France in Egypt, and had permitted a great military and naval power to take up a position which would in the future dominate the commerce between herself and the Australasian colonies. "So vast were the interests involved, so wide the issues which depended upon this apparently trivial matter, that he feared England had taken a fatal step and dealt with her own hand a serious blow against her own supremacy. The inflexible resolution of all parties in the United States, which prevented the annexation of Samoa by Germany, filled him with delight, and convinced him that no questions of European politics, no outside entanglement with other nations, would prevent the United States from throwing its shield before the weakest community if the cause of human liberty could be thereby advanced. In his opinion, England and America should act conjointly. In all cases where it is distinctly in the interests of freedom and humanity they should be guided by one spirit and work in unison for the same ends."* So say we all. The upward progress of the world is slow but it is sure. The schism between the mother and eldest daughter is being healed, and both are seeing that their moral and effective union, based on common interests and sentiments, is the one thing needful to ensure a happier future for the world. Prince Bismarck, however, has not forgotten the snub administered to him in connection with his Samoan policy, and it is no wonder that he should now condemn loudly what he terms "the arrogance" of the United States to Spain, and pooh-pooh the prospect or

*Life and Times of Sir George Grey. Vol. II, p. 556 and appendix, p. 604.