

But Britain is a State, in the sense in which Acton used the word; and therein lies the limit of Canadian independence. Even in the world of instinct and impulse, there is an indissoluble bond; for the very home-sickness of the immigrant, in which he summarizes, and idealizes his debt to the land he left, and which is an inheritance to the third and fourth generations, is a political force, ten times more valid than any tariff federation. Even in material matters there is another bond, for Canada, independent, has not the prestige of Canada, already no "daughter in her mother's house," but one of a family where all are of the same generation. And if it be argued that this prestige may be attained equally well through "annexation," the answer must be that Canada, one of a group of confederates, in the greatest state in the world, is surely happier in her ambitions, than a dislocated Canada, entering, piecemeal, into the American Union.

But the conclusive reason for some limit to an absolute independence, lies in the future. In the coming world-state, whose constitution neither jingo nor little-Englander can guess at, the final reason for its existence will be its importance in international morality. A commonwealth of sister-states, all of them holding to British justice, and British honour, each of them removed even from the possibility of strife with all the rest, suggests a nearer approach to the new Jerusalem, than gates of jewels and streets of gold. And the state which cherishes a lower taste for separate parochial existence, is not merely thwarting her own greatness, but stultifying the petition which Canadians still include in their prayer that "God's will may be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

IDYLLIC.

There are meters of accent
And meters of tone
But the best of all meters
Is to meter alone.

Later Edition.

There's a metre iambic and a metre trochaic,
And a metre that's tender in tone,
But the metre that's neater, and sweeter, completer
Is to meet her by moonlight alone.—McMaster Monthly.