

owing to the lack of protection from the home government, one after another fell into the hands of other countries. In more recent times France has again come into colonial importance, and to-day she is one of the strongest European nations, owning large possessions in the East, South America and Africa. The affairs of the French dependencies are controlled by the Mother Country through her Minister for the Colonies.

Turning to consider the grandest colonial, commercial, and naval Empire the world has ever seen, and viewing its vast possessions on which the "sun never sets," we realize the truth of Kipling's words:

"Never was isle so little, never was sea so lone,

But o'er the seud and the palm trees an English flag has flown."

The colonial history of England, beginning in the Elizabethan Period, and continuing to the present day, admits of no possible comparison with that of any other nation, past or present. Her colonies, planted in every land, composed of varied races, creeds, and nationalities, rejoice in the fullest freedom and are united in peaceful allegiance and sympathetic loyalty to the Crown of England.

The British colonial policy encourages the colonies to provide as far as possible for their own government. The prosperity and development of the colonies are thus greatly promoted as our own fair Canada and Australia bear witness.

The United Kingdom and her colonies constitute the British Empire, comprising one-fifth of the land surface of the earth, inhabited by one-fourth of all the people upon it. The world's greatest naval power faithfully guards the interests of this gigantic imperial state. Truly, "Britannia rules the waves" and stands for Justice and Freedom for every subject of His Most Gracious Majesty, King George.

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