

To Canada.

Young Canada, and may'st thou be
 Mother of sons well worthy thee!
 Pure-spirited as are thy snows,
 Harmonious as thy water-flows;
 Sons soaring on the wings of worth,
 Lust-burnt for lofty virtue's spoil;
 Strength-driven emperors of earth,
 Eager for plunder reft from toil.
 And may they strive in quietude,
 Till grandly regal thou may'st stand,
 Young empress of an earth renewed,
 Where God and man go hand-in-hand!
 And may they with their hearts and eyes
 Follow thy mountains to the skies,
 And, gazing in their footsteps, scan
 The message in the flower that dies,
 That, Earth-subliming, every deed,
 O'er tranquil paths of love, may lead
 Nearer to God and nearer man!

—E. M. Yeoman, in *April Canadian Magazine*.

The Growth of the Empire.

The growth of the Empire has taken 400 years, and each of the four centuries has had its own characteristic. You may call them the Four F's. It looked like *Fancy* in the 16th century, when the schemes of Gilbert and Raleigh seemed to have ended in failure. It was *Faith* in the 17th, when Virginia and Massachusetts, Hudson's Bay and Calcutta, Jamaica, and half-a-dozen more of the West Indies, Pennsylvania, the Gold Coast, Madras and Maine, were all colonised, settled or acquired—for the most part by men who "did not ask to see the distant scene." There was *Fighting* in the 18th—nearly all the century through—fighting with French and Spaniards and our own colonists in America; with French and Mahrathas and Mysore in India; with almost all the world. And, in the 19th, there comes *Freedom*—freedom from fear of external attack, freedom for internal development, political freedom, moral freedom, religious freedom.

What will the 20th century bring? It may be another—*Fulfilment*. Or it may be yet another—*Failure*. It depends on you and me, and on a few millions more of You's and Me's scattered over the Empire. See to it that we bear ourselves as well, and do our part as thoroughly, as those who built the Empire; for to us it is said, as to Israel of old, that we have entered into the possession of "great and goodly cities which we builded not, and of houses full of all good things which we filled not,

and vineyards and olive-trees which we planted not." Or, as the Poet of Empire tells us:

Fair is our lot: O goodly is our heritage!
 (Humble yee, my people, and be fearful in your mirth!)
 For the Lord our God Most High,
 He hath made the deep as dry,
 He hath smote for us a pathway to the ends of all the earth!"

—W. K. Stride.

The Greatness of the Empire.

Few persons are aware of the enormous compass of the British Empire. Great Britain is to-day sovereign over 11,908,377 square miles, or nearly one-fifth of the land surface of the globe, and her subjects are not far from 400,000,000, or more than one-fourth of the population of the entire world.

The area of the British dominion is distributed approximately as follows: In Europe, 125,095 square miles; America, 4,000,000; Australasia, 5,000,000; Africa, 2,500,000; Asia, 2,000,000.

The population of the Empire is distributed as follows: In Europe, 42,000,000; America, 7,500,000; Australasia, 5,000,000; Africa, 43,000,000; Asia, 300,000,000. The white population is 56,000,000 and the colored 344,000,000.

The territory covered by the British Empire very nearly equals the combined possessions of the United States, France and China.—*Buffalo Courier*.

I once taught a large rural school. There were several bright girls in the eighth grade, all splendid scholars, but so very careless about their language. I felt that I must do something out of the ordinary to awaken an interest and pride in English construction.

I put a fancy pin on my desk and told the class that the one who first heard another make a grammatical error and corrected her could wear the pin until some member of the class corrected her, when she must surrender it to the one who made the correction. At first the pin went from girl to girl in rapid succession. But they were all interested and began to notice what barbarous language they had been using. It is needless to say that there was a marked improvement. Before the end of the school year, I was proud of their correct English.—*Popular Educator*.