

United States or Europe. What must it be when the population grows from these figures to the present population of the United Kingdom?

Now, between these two large colonies of Great Britain there is already so successful a line of Canadian Pacific steamers that a new fleet of ships of 10,000 tons burden will shortly be put on to run between Vancouver, British Columbia, and the colonial possessions in the South Pacific. Then, with a line of steamships which can make the run from Halifax to Liverpool in four days, the Pacific route from Australia to England will take only twenty-six days, and will be a strong competitor with the Red Sea and Gibraltar route. It is estimated that it will be only seven days longer from London to Calcutta by way of the Canadian Pacific steamers to China than by Gibraltar. This fact helps to explain why, with lines extending to Australia, India, America, and numerous islands, Hong Kong is the second port of entry in the British Empire, and for the growing commerce and influence of Great Britain in the Pacific. Having adopted the motto that the British flag follows British trade, the warships of Great Britain are found sooner or later wherever British subjects have made commerce profitable throughout the Pacific.

In a long talk with Sir Mackenzie Bowell, the Premier of Canada, I was impressed with the great wisdom of the federation of the Provinces and Districts of Canada into the Dominion, and equally with the immense cost at which it was done. Not only did British Columbia refuse to come into the Federation unless connected with the Eastern Provinces by railroad, which required the building of the Canadian Pacific at a cost of nearly \$200,000,000 (the Dominion pay-

ing nearly half, aside from the gift of 25,000,000 acres of land to the railroad company), but the Government assumed the heavy debts of some of the maritime provinces in order to make possible the Federation.

Now only Newfoundland, with her holdings in Labrador, remains out of the Dominion, and the Premier told me that the Government stood ready to assume the large debt of \$18,000,000 owed by Newfoundland, in order to have the Dominion of Canada embrace all British subjects living north of the United States. Thus the Dominion Parliament would have full control from ocean to ocean. The Canadian Government was willing to make this concession, in order to get possession of the Newfoundland Fisheries, which Lord Bacon said were more to be desired than the mines of Peru. This would make the Fisheries question one that the Dominion Government could deal with directly, and not, as now, be embarrassed by independent action on the part of Newfoundland.

As already constituted the Canadian Federation embraces forty per cent. of the territory of the British Empire, and yet from sea to sea its entire population is less than that of the State of New York, numbering, in fact, less than 5,000,000. Its commerce has greatly increased since the Confederation; and, backed by the Government of Great Britain, there is no doubt a great and growing future before it, and the more as, through the Pacific trade, it is becoming a connecting link between England and her Pacific colonies. As regards the new order of things brought about by the putting on of the great steamships, I will let the Premier speak:

"The agreement is that the steamers will call at New Zealand, touching en route at Victoria, Hon-