

be mighty, irresistible, the mistress and arbiter of the world. There will thus be no reason to fear Russia or Germany, or France, or the United States, or any combination of them.

The British Empire is a loosely connected mass, which may, at any moment, unless things are altered, fly asunder with an explosive force that would carry ruin and devastation to our hopes, our commerce, and our greatness. We want a statesman of the semi-military type, not a *dilletante* Anglo-Indian, with theories hung around his neck like the beads of a devotee. The empire wants organizing rather than extending, it wants rest from external troubles while the work is done. Some persons may say it needs a great calamity to prove the necessity to us all. Would it not be better to avoid courting the calamity out of "pure cussedness," as our Yankee friends express it, and take a leaf out of Prince Bismarck's book! There is force, and patriotism, and money enough to effect all we desire. The main thing is to generate the will power, and to discover the man. . . . At present, both seem wanting. It is time we aroused ourselves, and resolved upon having a real empire with an Imperial army, and an Imperial navy, and a perfect system of defence for every part of Her Majesty's dominions.

To the region of politics belongs the discussion of the details of this plan, yet it may be of interest briefly to touch upon some of the problems, pressing for solution in England, which point to the present time as ripe for the agitation of this important question. Next to Belgium, England in proportion to her area, is the most thickly populated country in the world; her population per square mile is nearly double that of India and Japan, and more than three and a half times that of the Chinese Empire. In the face of her rapid decline, from the position of being 'the workshop of the world,' once enjoyed, how to furnish her im-

mense population with the means of livelihood and at the same time satisfy the ever-increasing craving of the masses for landed property, is persistently making itself felt. To those toiling on without much hope in life, the subject under discussion should possess an absorbing interest, as pointing to a means of escape from their present hopeless condition, and to a chance of acquiring a home of their own, not among foreigners and aliens, but in lands blessed with institutions excelling even those under which they have been born and reared. To the manufacturing and mercantile classes, and to capitalists, reciprocal trade between the several parts of the empire, and the confidence inspired by the settlement of the vexed question of the destiny of the colonies, would open new and much needed avenues for trade and manufactures, and extensive fields for the employment of a plethora of idle capital; while to the privileged class of the aristocracy and land holders, who know not from day to day whence to expect an onslaught upon their cherished and time-honoured institutions, a scheme tending to divert the attention of the masses from the contemplation of the huge disparity between their lot and that of their more fortunate superiors will commend itself. The maintenance of their institutions, the safety of their order, lands, and family possessions, urge upon them to view it with favour.

It has been calculated that through the tide of emigration to the United States, England has, during the past fifty years, presented the former country with \$100,000,000, a state of things which certainly should not be allowed to continue, but undoubtedly will, till the present anomalous relations between the mother country and the colonies, shall be terminated. To the most superficial observer, it should be patent, that failing a confederation of the empire, a separation of the chief colonies must soon follow; then England, deprived of the many advantages