

Matthew Arnold (1791), "Duncan Gray," "The Deil's awa' wi' the Exciseman," "Ye Banks and Braes and Streams around the Castle of Montgomery" (one of the sweetest of farewells), all of 1792. "Scots wha ha'e" (1793). But his poetic work became less and less. In 1795 he wrote "A Man's a Man for a' that." In January of 1796 he caught a chill through exposure, which brought on rheumatic fever. During his last illness he wrote "O, wert thou in the cauld blast," for Jessie Leuchars who

nursed him. The last finished offspring of his muse was "Here's a health to one I lo'e dear."

These are but notes almost without comments. It would be difficult to comment without greatly transgressing our limits. Let the reader only go over the pieces indicated above, and he will learn to know Burns for himself. The best edition of his works is that of Paterson, Edinburgh, but the Globe edition is excellent and cheap. Lockhart's Life is perhaps the best.

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THE BRITISH EMPIRE TO DAY—NEW ZEALAND.

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TO the average Canadian, unacquainted with the South Pacific Ocean, its vastness and potentialities, New Zealand is simply an appendage of Australia. On a small map it does not seem to be very far away. Just as the thousand miles of intervening wild waters amounted to no more in the eyes of the old Dutch cartographers than the distance between Holland and Zealand, and made them call the one New Zealand as they had called the other New Holland, so it seems somewhat strange to us that New Zealand should have any objection to unite on a federal basis with Australia. The matter appears different after one has sailed under the Southern Cross and lived for a few weeks in different parts of Australasia. New Zealand then is seen to be quite distinct from the island continent. Practically, it is as far away from it as Canada is from Britain. The intervening ocean is not so broad, but it is even more stormy, and it takes about as long to sail from Dunedin, Christchurch, or Wellington as to cross from Halifax to

Liverpool or Southampton. And New Zealand is distinct from Australia more radically than by distance. It is essentially different in fauna, flora, geology, physical geography, and in the character alike of its scenery, its native population, its methods of colonization and its political development.

New Zealanders, moreover, are very far from objecting to being considered part of Australasia; that term being used when Tasmania, the Fijis and New Zealand are included, while the term Australia is limited to the great island itself. They have no intention of isolating themselves and playing a lone hand. They are as deeply interested in the future of the South Pacific as Victoria or New South Wales can be, and they are as willing to bear their share of responsibility in excluding from it all European powers other than Britain. No events in the course of their brief history have wounded them, as members of the Empire, so deeply as the tacit permission given to France to occupy New Caledonia, and more recently