

which will ensure its accomplishment sooner or later. Great Britain has often acted in concert with foreign nations to conquer or restrain a common enemy. Why, then, is it impossible for circumstances ever to unite nations of the same race, language, and religion? The English nations, surrounded and opposed by hostile races, may yet find it necessary to forget petty jealousies, and to unitedly resist the encroachments of a common foe. And, yet, how this union is to be brought about is a perplexing question.

Men who, in other matters, use discretion and moderation, in this, wish to attain their end at a bound. I have even heard intelligent men discussing the details of a vast central Parliament as if such an assembly were practicable. I believe in federation as feasible and possible, but, not of the class to which I have just referred. A system of union upon a numerical basis is absurd. No independent English nation will bind itself to abide by the decision of an assembly in which the combined votes of its representatives might be disregarded in determining the course of action to be adopted. This method regards the problem in an advanced stage of its possible existence. Those who advocate such a complete and complicate federation disregard the first dictates of common sense, and the plainest teachings of nature. The child must crawl before it can walk. It is as if one were standing by the side of a sleeping babe and soliloquizing after this manner. The legs of that child are powerless to support the weight of a man and are not accustomed to the motions of walking. It would be very desirable to have those small legs support the body of a man, but it is absolutely impossible. The greatest dullard in England could inform him that, when the child has learned to walk, its legs will become large and strong.

So in the affairs of state. Unity has not yet reached even the development of the youngest babe; and some would attribute to it the powers, and supply it with the habiliments common to men. If men will only take advantage of every opportunity to strengthen the ties of friendship and interest between the English

nations every obstacle to federation will eventually be removed.

Hostility between kindred nations would be suicidal. In the struggle for existence and supremacy, whether in peace or in war, it is the privilege of Britons to prefer the Americans to a foreign race. Nothing could be more lamentable than an Anglo-American war. It has never in the history of man been the lot of any people to absolutely control such a large part of the world as is now ruled by the English speaking races; and nothing, but the most pernicious folly of our leaders, can prevent us from working out a glorious destiny."

"Well done, Noble. I confess that I am interested. What plan do you recommend? Have you any idea how these nations may act in harmony?"

"Yes, Sopho, I have an idea, but as yet it is rather immature. I believe that British North America will some day reconcile the two great English nations. In the past, Canada has been the cause of their hostility, and, in the future, it may be the link which shall connect the chain of their broken friendship. The interests of Great Britain, the United States and Canada, will gradually become so interlaced that neither can disregard the actions of the others. By social intercourse and trade relations, the prejudices which now inflame the minds of many, in either country, will be dissipated; and, in their place will spring up common feelings of friendship and admiration. The resultant of the forces attracting and repelling the two nations will cause them to approach; and Great Britain and the United States, in international matters, will act as one people. If Canada continues true to the mother land, the present century may witness the first steps in the formation of this grand Federation. A monstrous central parliament to manage international matters would be ponderous and useless. Fortunately, such an assembly is not necessary. Whenever matters of national moment should arise, the heads of the respective nations could easily arrange for concerted and effective action. The many advantages, arising from this common and united action, would slowly increase the number of