

A SAGE'S FINAL WORD
ON CANADA'S DESTINY.

That wonderful man, Dr. Goldwin Smith, although admitting that no one in Canada now talks about the annexation of Canada to the United States, by no means abandons his somewhat ancient theory that the political destiny of the continent is fixed. Yet there is a tinge of melancholy in the sentences of the sage as he admits in what is probably the last article he will write on the subject that no octogenarian has any interest in the question. It is a problem that must be passed on to future generations. As all students of the Professor's political philosophy know, he has almost, from the day he set his foot upon the soil of America, been a firm believer in, although possibly not an ardent advocate of, organic political union of the United States and Canada. He has lived to see the national foundations of this country become more firmly fixed, until at the present day, with the shadows rapidly lengthening upon his own distinguished career, he stands solitary and alone the one outspoken believer in the rational political thesis that what nature has joined together man cannot per manently keep asunder. This great literary master and profound reasoner, in an article in Contemporary Review, gives his reasons for his unshattered faith in what the future has in store for us despite the admittedly new spirit of political cohesion that has taken possession of Canadians within the past dozen years. He holds that the political map is never so significant as the physical map. Legislative arrangements cannot get the better of geology. "Protectionism has never defined its area. Nature has defined the commercial area as simply that of profitable exchange." The great lines of natural communication are north and south. Alluring railway maps, with their broad trunk systems running east and west on either side of the border, do not adequately set forth the facts. "In reality the Dominion consists of four different sections of territory forming a broken line across the continent and separated from each other by wide spaces of great barriers of nature, while each of them is closely connected in every way with the country to the south. The railway which links them has to carry wide unpaying tracts as well as the liabilities of a subarctic climate." This is but a hint of the reasoning which convinces Mr. Smith that nature will, in the end, prove too strong for merely political man. Statesmen reputed sagacious said that the union of Italy and of Germany would never come. But nature had decreed it, and "it came, with the hour of destiny and with the man."

Political conditions Mr. Smith also subjects to a keen analysis. He warns English public men not to be deceived by all the glamour of Imperial federation. Canada means to be mistress in her own house. Imperial preference in trade has turned out to be a hollow delusion. The Canadians are well disposed towards British commerce, but they think first of their own. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, at the conference of Colonial Premiers in London, made it plain that the Canadian government would never surrender its fiscal autonomy to England. The speeches of the Finance Minister, Mr. Fielding, are to the same effect. Nor does Canada any longer call upon Great Britain for military protection. England has withdrawn practically all her military forces. American farmers crossing the border will, no doubt, prove good and loyal Canadians, but they will not easily become Imperialists, nor consent supinely to be shut out from trading advantages in the States from which they came. All told, Mr. Smith made in Canada political forces at play which will make impossible the reproduction of Old World conditions, and will more and more tend to a popular government of the American type. This is the great political drift which led British statesmen of a half century ago to look forward to colonial emancipation, and American statesmen like Seward and Sumner to think of Canadian annexation as certain to come. That movement has been retarded, for special reasons, but Mr. Smith, in a prophetic strain attained by old experience, is firmly of the mind that it will reassert itself and, one day, link the fates of the two nations.

THE BIG STICK AND ITS USES.

It is not very clear what the Nicaraguans and the Salvadoreans and Hondurans are fighting for. It may be granted, however, that some great principle is at stake, as our friend the new representative of the Islands constituency always says when his vote does not appear to harmonize with his speeches and his record as a public man. Doubtless the humanitarian President of the United States thoroughly understands the situation as it affects his belligerent wards in South America, because he keeps an intelligent and watchful eye on the affairs of all nations, great and small, and is always ready to tender his good offices for the purpose of restoring the entente cordiale. Then there is the Big Stick ready to his hand in case offenders against humanity and civilization prove obstinate and refuse to listen to the arguments of reason, justice and common sense. If it be true, as American newspapers claim that the Big Stick is now being waved aloft as a

warning to European national busybodies to stand aloof and allow the pugnacious southern republics to settle their misunderstanding in their own way, why cannot it be applied to the heads of the disputants themselves just as a gentle reminder that it is time the machete was permanently buried? Surely it is not possible that this mighty avenger of the affairs of nations, the man who commanded the Russian and the Japanese armies to stand still and behold it was so, is controlled by human weaknesses after all, and is deeply desirous of beholding one or two sanguinary rounds ere he shall wave his club of peace aloft and declare that the purposeless carnage shall cease? But it may be that the president really believes a trifle of blood-letting is necessary to lower the physical temperature of these warlike Latins. If such be Mr. Roosevelt's opinion, we are not sure but it is justified in the light of past experiences. When the psychological moment arrives we expect to see the Big Stick waved to some purpose and the combatants retire sullenly to their tents.

Raynor, the murderer of Mr. Whitely, "the Universal Provider," of London, was given what would perhaps be called on this continent a speedy trial. The case was a sensational one, and yet it was concluded in a few hours. No "brain storm" pleas were advanced. If they had been they would undoubtedly have been speedily set aside. Within the space of a few weeks this world will know Mr. Raynor no more. There may be differences of opinion in regard to the efficacy of capital punishment as a deterrent of crime. There is a growing disposition, unquestionably, to combat the idea that society has the right to protect itself against offenders by the extinguishment of human life. But while certain punishments are prescribed for certain offences, it is surely in the true interests of organized communities that the laws on the statute books shall be enforced without fear or favor and with the utmost expedition consistent with justice to the offender. Russia is not the only country in the world to-day in which the procedure of the courts is a mockery. That great despotism is reaping the ripe fruits of revolution. The United States, although in many respects the polar antithesis of Russia, is sowing the seeds of revolution by permitting legal abuses of a burlesque character. Our neighbors have proved by the readiness with which they take the law into their own hands and administer summary justice that they have completely lost confidence in the courts. How long they will tolerate such performances as they witness every day is a question for the future to determine. When the work of reformation is taken in hand, there is little doubt that it will be done thoroughly.

In these days of great industrial activity and unprecedented individual opportunity on this continent, life in barracks and on the ocean wave appears to have lost all attractions for the sons of Neptune and of Mars. In Canada men are not eager to enlist in the service of their country, while seamen in His Majesty's navy take advantage of every opportunity to desert and engage in other occupations. The fact is there is a growing disinclination on the part of men to surrender their individual liberty even under conditions that are very much more attractive than they were a couple of years ago. This state of affairs creates problems for governments. And yet it indicates a healthy and commendable sentiment, and we do not know that it is to be deprecated. It is a condition that has long obtained in the United States, notwithstanding the fact that rates of pay in the army and the navy on the other side of the boundary line have been maintained upon a much higher scale than is customary in European countries. Whether it is desirable for governments to meet private concerns in the matter of scales of remuneration is something for authorities to determine. In the meantime there is no more convincing evidence of a remarkable state of prosperity than the tendency to which we have drawn attention. When men hasten to enter military service that will be a sure indication that the days of prosperity are at end.

The cup of San Francisco's municipal iniquity was filled to the brim by the so-called people's party under the leadership of Mayor Schmitz. Never in the history of municipal government in any country has such a tale of un-bushy graft been told. And the most depressing feature of the situation is that there is very little likelihood of the despoilers of their fellow-citizens being punished in accordance with the nature of their offences. San Francisco is the place in which lawyers flourish who know how to take the fullest advantage of technical points. They are almost certain to get Schmitz and Reaf out of the toils.

The Times heartily joins in the congratulations being showered upon Senator and Mrs. Macdonald of Armadale on the interesting occasion of the celebration of the golden wedding. They have been conspicuous figures in the life of Victoria for many years—they continue to flourish for as many more.

The romance of the Associated Press is quite assured that King Edward is laying plans and refusing to listen to the arguments of reason, justice and common sense. If it be true, as American newspapers claim that the Big Stick is now being waved aloft as a

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WHITE HONEYCOMB TOWELS, fringed, size 18 x 36, at, per doz. \$3.00
LINEN HUCK TOWELS, hemstitched, size 25 x 40, special, per doz. \$3.00
WHITE TURKISH TOWELS, size 20 x 45, at, per dozen \$1.50
WHITE TURKISH BATH TOWELS, hemstitched, each \$1.50, \$1.25, \$1.00, 75c, and 50c
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BATH MATS, in fancy designs and colors, each \$2.50 down to 50c
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IRISH LINEN TABLE CLOTHS, double damask, grass bleached, 2 x 2 1/2 yards, at, each \$3.50
NAPKINS to match, at, per doz. \$3.50
IRISH LINEN TABLE CLOTHS, double damask, 2 x 2 1/2 yards, each \$5.00
NAPKINS to match, at, per dozen \$5.00
UNBLEACHED TABLE LINEN, full width, per yard \$1.00 down to 50c
IRISH LINEN TRAY CLOTHS, hand embroidered, 18 x 18, each \$1.00, 85c, 80c, and 75c
ALL LINEN TRAY CLOTHS, hand embroidered, 18 x 18, each \$1.00, 85c, 80c, and 75c
ALL LINEN TRAY CLOTHS, hand embroidered, each from \$5.00 down to 50c
APPLIQUE RUNNERS, size 18 x 54 in., and 20 x 54 in., each \$1.00
SPECIAL LINEN RUNNERS, hand embroidered, 15 x 68, each \$1.00
CANADIAN AND ENGLISH PRINTS, in light and dark grounds, complete range of new patterns, 32 in. wide, at, per yard \$1.50
INDIGO BLUE DRESS DUCKS, fancy designs, polka dots, at, per yard, 15c
PLAIN CHAMBRAY, fast colors, in sky, pink, old rose and grey, at, per yard 25c, and 15c

Dainty and Effective Washables for Light Wear

HOLLY BATISTE MUSLINS, in fancy designs, colors blue, pink, lavender, black and white, at, per yard \$1.00
IMITATION EGYPTIAN EMBROIDERY, in fancy designs, at, per yard 25c
DOTTED SWISS MUSLIN, in checks, spots and flowered, at, per yard 25c
POIN DE SOIE MUSLIN, in checks and fancy designs, at, per yard 35c
ORGANDIE MUSLIN, flowered designs, colors blue, lavender, pink and yellow, at, per yard 35c
SILK ORGANDIE MUSLIN, colors lavender, blue and pink, at, per yard 50c
WHITE ROBE MUSLINS, 48 in. wide, at, per yard \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 40c, and 35c

Exquisite Millinery Creations

An authoritative collection of masterpieces from the French capital and the foremost English and American milliners. Every model represents a new style idea. Your undivided attention during the coming week will be centered around the exquisite creations that discriminating women will inevitably adopt for Easter and Spring wear.

Pattern Hats range from \$25.00 down to \$5.00.
The new French flowers in pleasing varieties are now here. We invite you to see this splendid assortment of the choicest new flowers.

Women's Footwear For Easter

WOMEN'S CANVAS OXFORDS, in white, lavender, and new shade, "Oyster Grey," Cuban heel, turn sole, canvas covered heel; very dressy. Per pair \$4.00
WOMEN'S WHITE CANVAS OXFORD TIE, side lace, Cuban heel, welted sole. Per pair \$3.50
WOMEN'S WHITE CANVAS PUMPS, Cuban heel, canvas-covered heel. Per pair \$4.00
WOMEN'S PATENT COLT BUTT-ON OXFORDS, dress kid top, Cuban heel, welted sole. Per pair \$3.50
WOMEN'S PATENT COLT OXFORDS, Gibson tie, full kid top, welted sole, Cuban heel, opera toe. Per pair \$4.50
WOMEN'S PATENT COLT BUTT-ON OXFORDS, dress kid top, Cuban heel, welted sole. Per pair \$3.50

PREPARATIONS for the easter season are now at an end. Modish merchandise at low prices consistent with first-class qualities have been congregated and tastefully arranged from all the known fashion centres of the world. Everything that is new, novel, and meritorious await your Easter selection. We are assured of one thing, that after your purchases have been completed you will join in the unanimous voice—that the present Easter values have surpassed all previous offerings in any preceding Easter.

Mantle Department

Everything has been said that can be, respecting the charming authoritative attire we possess for Spring and Easter wear. In order to avoid disappointment decide the matter of your final selection as early in the week as possible.

New Coats for Easter Wear

LADIES' THREE-QUARTER LENGTH COAT, in black and white check, box back trimmed with stitched straps and buttons, outside pockets. \$7.50
LADIES' HIP LENGTH COAT, box back, outside pockets, double breasted. \$8.75
LADIES' BLACK AND WHITE CHECK COAT, box back, outside pockets, three-quarter length, full sleeves, with deep cuff. \$8.50
LADIES' 7-8 LENGTH COAT, brown tweed box back, double breasted, with outside pockets, sleeve with deep cuff. \$10.00
LADIES' BOX BACK COAT, hip length, in grey and black stripe, double breasted, with fancy buttons, outside pockets, velvet collar. \$10.00
LADIES' LIGHT TWEED COAT, with brown stripe, 7-8 length, box back, double breasted, with fancy button and outside pockets. \$10.00

Exquisite New Silk Underskirts

LADIES' BLACK TAFFETA UNDERSKIRT, with deep flounce, finished with two small ruffles. Special price. \$6.00
LADIES' BLACK SILK UNDERSKIRT, made of extra good quality of taffeta, shirred flounce, sixteen inches deep, finished with two trills. Special price. \$9.50
LADIES' TAFFETA UNDERSKIRTS, colors black, green, cerise and dark red, tucked flounce ten inches deep, finished with accordion pleated flounce. Special price. \$6.75
LADIES' TAFFETA UNDERSKIRT, in dark red, black, grey, and green, accordion pleated flounce with deep dust ruffle; Special price. \$7.50
LADIES' TAFFETA UNDERSKIRT, extra good quality, colors red, green, and grey, made with deep flounce, trimmed with accordion pleated frills in circular effect; Special price. \$9.50

Silk Department

An Exquisite Easter Choice Can be found in the superb showing of New Silks

A full range of colors in rich brocaded silks for dresses and waists, per yard \$1.50
COLD CHECK SILKS, rich quality. \$1.75
NEW TASSAN SILKS, a novelty, \$2.75 and \$3.50
SILK ORGANDIES, just opened out, some new designs. 75c
HANDSOME WHITE BROCADED SILKS, for waists and dresses, per yard \$2.00
GEISHA SILKS, a full range of colors in light and dark shades, per yard 50c
Black PEAU DE SOIE SILKS, special value per yard \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.25, \$1.00 and 50c
Black FRENCH PAILLETTE SILKS, soft and fine finish, for dresses per yard, from \$1.50 to 75c
Black TAFFETA SILKS, for linings and dresses, per yard, from \$1.50 to 50c
COLD TAFFETA SILKS, a full range of colors in light and dark, prices per yard, 90c, 75c, and 60c

Easter Showing in New Dress Goods

A range of Pretty Tweeds, small stripe and check effects, in blue, green, fawn and grey, 41 in., at, per yard 50c
ENGLISH TWEEDS for Spring wear, in all shades of grey with plaid and stripe designs, 42 in., at, per yard 75c
BEIGE SUITINGS, light, medium and dark grey, 42 in., at, per yard 75c
CHEVIOT TWEEDS, light mixtures in greys, fawn, green, blue, etc., a very smart material; all wool, 44 in., at, per yard \$1.00
Venetian Weave, at, per yard \$1.50 down to 50c
All Wool Crepe De Chine, at, per yard 75c
"Alexandra" Cloth, our leading colored cloth; brown, light navy, mid navy, Alice blue, old rose, resida, myrtle, fawn, grey, etc., 48 in. wide, at, per yard \$1.75
Silk and Wool, at, per yard 75c
Crepe de Chine
White Ground with black check, 54 inches, at, per yard \$1.50
White Ground with black and grey broken check, very stylish goods, all wool, 54 inches, at, per yard \$1.75
CASHMERE, POPLIN, LUSTRE, DE LAINE, VOILE, SERGES, etc., etc.—A full range of plain and fancy, at, per yard, from \$1.00 down to 50c
Ladies' Cloths at, per yard from \$4.00 down to 50c
Serges, different makes, at, per yard, from \$1.50 down to 50c
Black Voiles at, per yard, from \$2.00 \$1.00 down to 75c

Delightful Showing of Misses' New Footwear for Easter, dainty and elegant—yet serviceable

Misses' Chocolate Vici Kid Blucher Cut Lace Boots, goodyear welt, low heels, sizes 11 to 2, widths C and D per pair \$2.50
Misses' Chocolate Vici Kid Blucher Oxfords, low heels, welted soles, sizes 11 to 2, widths C and D, per pair \$2.50
Misses' Patent Calf, Blucher, Oxford, welt sole, low heel, sizes 11 to 2, per pair \$2.50
Misses' Black Vici Kid, Blucher, Oxford, welt sole, patent tip, size 11 to 2, widths C, D, and E, per pair \$2.50

Ladies' New Swiss Ribbed Underwear, Special Value For Easter.

Ladies' Swiss Vests, long, short, or strap sleeves, closed or buttoned down front. All sizes, each \$1.25, \$1.00 and 75c
Children's Swiss Vests, long sleeves, closed or buttoned down front. All sizes, 65c, 55c, 45c, and 35c
"Nazareth Woven Waists". We have just received a large consignment for Children. Most satisfactory and durable in every way, finished with double row of buttons and suspender bar. Sizes 1 to 12 years. Price each 35c and 25c

Spring Cleaning Before Easter

The Housefurnishing Dept. is alive with new suggestions. The following are worthy of attention:

Ecru Madras, double tasseled edge, 6-4 widths, in 8 different designs, all of the very latest patterns, per yard... \$1.00
Ecru tasseled, double edged madras, 6-4 widths, 6 designs, per yard... 60c
Ecru tasseled, double edged madras, 8-4 widths, 3 designs, per yard... 65c
These are especially adapted for libraries, glass doors, mantles and front door drapery.
Deep Ecru Curtain Net, vandyke edge, over-stitched, conventional floral pattern, 6-4 widths, per yard... 75c
Plain edge ecru madras, green and pink and green and yellow and pink, large conventional flowered design, specially choice, 6-4 width, per yard... 85c

COUCH COVERS.
Oriental Striped Couch Covers, in assorted designs, each... \$1.50

A Large Shipment of the Newest

Trunks, Suit Cases, Hand Bags, Grips, Club Bags, Etc., Etc., for the Easter Holidays

SOLID SOLE LEATHER TRUNKS
WOOD TRUNKS, \$17.50, \$25.75
WOOD TRUNKS, specially strengthened at corners, banded and covered with painted canvas, from... \$16.00 to \$45.00
WOOD TRUNKS, covered with enameled rim, banded and strengthened at corners, from \$5.50 to \$25.50
STANDARD TRUNKS, covered with painted canvas, bound and banded with and without straps, from... \$14.50 to \$30.00
CABINET TRUNKS for Ladies, drawers, strongly made, bound and banded... \$13.50
CANVAS TELESCOPED, bound leather corners and straps, 26 to 31 in., from... \$13.50 to \$50.00
CANVAS TELESCOPES, extra large and strong, bound leather, from... \$4.00 to \$25.00
JAPANESE FIRE SUIT CASES, strong and light, with and without straps, from... \$7.50 to \$4.50
LEATHER AND LEATHERETTE SUIT CASES, with clasps and steel frames, from... \$21.00 to \$2.25
HAND BAGS AND GRIPS, Leather and Leatherette, from \$10.50 to \$25.00
IMPORTED SOLID COWHIDE KID BOXES, from... \$32.50 to \$3.50
IMPORTED SOLID LEATHER "CLUB" BAGS, latest shapes, from... \$15.00 to \$12.50
SHAWL STRAPS, with handle and 2 straps... 75c, 50c, 35c, 25c, 15c
TRUNK AND BAG STRAPS, from... 15c to 40c
LUGGAGE LABELS... 15c, and 5c

New Novels for Easter Reading and Presentation

The Edge of Hazard, by Horton; The Day Dreamer, by Williams; The Fighting Chance, by Chambers; The Jungle, by Sinclair; The Scarlet Empress, by Mrs. Henry James; The Prince of Sinclaire; Romance Island, by Zola; Gale; Karl Grier, by Tracy; Judith, by Alexander; Lightning Conductor, by Williamson; Whispering Smith, by Spearman; In the Van, by Price Brown; Blindfolded, by Wallcott; The Tides of Barnegat, by Smith; Anthony Overman, by Mickelson; Rich Men's Children, by G. Bonner; The Leader, by Dillon; Gode Gordon, by Freeman; Golden Greyhound, by Titton; The Challenge, by Cheney; Bob and the Guides, by Andrews; Half a Rogue, by Mac Grath; House of Mirth, by Wharton; Jewel Weed, by Winter; The Lady Evelyn, by Pemberton; The Cattle Baron's Daughter, by Blindless; The Late Tenant, by Holmes; The Last Spoke, by Warman; The Man Between, by Barr; A Knight of the Cumberland, by John Fox, Jr.; The Chief Legatee, by A. K. Green; The Man of the House, by Thompson; The Princess Passes, by Williamson; Lucy of the Stars, by Palmer, each... 75c
The Second Generation, by Phillips... 1.25
Latter Day Sweethearts, by Burton Harrison... 85c
The Saint, by Fogazard... 1.25
Affairs of State, by Stevenson... 1.25
The Awakening of Helen Ritchie, by Leland... 1.25
Running Water, by Mason... 1.25
Sir Nigel, by Conan Doyle (Paper)... 75c
Jane Cable, by McCutcheon (Paper)... 75c
Hope My Wife, by Moberly (Paper)... 75c
EASTER CARDS from 5c to... 50c
EASTER BOOKLETS, white and gold... 35c
EASTER BOOKS, leather... 1.50
EASTER BOOKS, leather... 1.25
EASTER BOOKS, leather... 1.75

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