

We are also of America, but are not "Americans." While cordial friendship has existed between us and them for over a century, there has also existed an impenetrable barrier of sovereign statehood deep as an abyss and high as heaven, invisible, intangible, but which the honour, the faith, the mutual respect of both nations regard as holy, over which no shodden foot may pass. With them, we, the representatives of the British Empire, hold and will hold against all other states this continent for our common civilization, from the Rio Grande to the North Pole. If we are menaced by the unrepentant forces of central Europe shoulder to shoulder we will face eastward, if by Asiads, we will fight about and march westward, if by any other common foe we will stand back to back, but never face to face in fratricidal strife. Canada is by birth the child of the United Kingdom, and by association partakes some of the characteristics of our American neighbours, and knows the worth of both, so standing between them and clasping on one side the hand of the United Kingdom and on the other that of the United States, Canada feels in its own heart and transmits the pulsations of kindness and sympathy which at the bottom the one feels for the other, and if at times it happens they are somewhat out of harmony, Canada will thus adjust them into synchrony. And let us hope that in some way the League of Empire Nations may be extended in a larger league which will include the United States. Such a league would not only protect all its members and our Anglo-Canadian Anzac-American civilization against external aggression but command the warring nations to be still. Failing such a league of nations, let us develop and consolidate the Empire, the spirit of which like the pillar of cloud and of fire will lead us into an inheritance of still greater blessing and to an increase of that Government and Peace of which there shall be no end.

"For lo! the kingdoms wax and wane,
They spring to power and pass again,
And ripen to decay;
But Britain sound in hand and heart
Is worthy still to play her part
Today as yesterday.

"Not till her age-long task is o'er,
To Thee, O God, may she restore
The sceptre and the crown,
Nor then shall die; but live anew
In those fair daughter lands which drew
Their life from hers, and shall renew
In them her old renown."