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and progress during the Victorian era has been of such a character that it marks it as a period distinctive in the history of the world. And when we recognize that we are approaching towards the termination of the Victorian era, we have a right to sum up and see what is the result of the marvellous progress and development that the world has seen during that era, and how far before its close an advance may be taken towards the consummation of some definite object that has its results in greater benefits to mankind generally. If progress and development and civilization and christianity do not advance the interests of mankind and the nations of the world, then it fails in its primary object, and in discussing this question I take that as my basis. I see, and we all see, that the sovereign whose name is attached to the Victorian era has reigned almost the longest reign that has been known on the British throne, and that her personal reign has been marked by the highest state of christianity, of experience, of political knowledge and of everything that goes to make a great and fine character, that she stands pre-eminently before the world and sets an example of all the virtues which it is desirable that the people of the world should emulate. Not only the Queen in her own life, but in the bringing up of her family and in her family life, has shown an example that we may imitate from one end of the world to the other in its simplicity, in the beneficial results that her rule in her private family has exercised upon those who have grown up around her, who stand before the world as public examples of what a christian family may be brought to, of what virtues they are able to display and what usefulness and advantages they are able to develop in the interest of the nation to which they belong. Alongside of the Queen we have the Hon. Mr. Gladstone, who is approaching the years of a centenarian who has developed the highest type of christian development in his character, allied with great political power, that modern history has shown us. Next to the Queen, who has the greatest political experience in the political history of the world, the result of her long reign as sovereign, and one who has never neglected her duties as the head of the British Empire, Mr. Gladstone, I think, stands next, and no matter how much his opponents may have disagreed with him, everyone will acknowledge that all his acts,

all the political efforts that he has put forth, have been guided from the highest principles that are supposed to emanate from a christian character. Then next to him we have Lord Salisbury, who is at the present moment at the head of the British nation as its political guide and ruler, and he is the representative of that phase of English family life that has for generations sent forth men fitted to cope with the political questions that have brought the British Empire to such great prominence, who have by their training been able to maintain a continuity of public policy that has all led to a certain end; and their great experience, backed up by the support of the nation, essentially democratic in its instincts, backed up by the intelligence of the nation, has brought Great Britain to the highest state of power and prestige that any nation on the face of the earth has ever yet attained. Co-operating with him in the British Government is the Hon. Mr. Chamberlain, who, unlike Lord Salisbury brought up as one of England's aristocracy, has sprung from the industrial classes of Birmingham, and he recognizes in the policy that he is now developing with regard to the extension of the world's commerce, with regard to the extension of the prestige and power of the British race, he recognizes the present day facilities for the interchange of trade and thereby the multiplication of the advantages of our civilization to the advancement of the world, to the benefit of the world and to the general diffusion of prosperity throughout the world. These comprise at the present time the leading personnel of the Victorian era as it is drawing to its close, and we have to consider, as I said before, hon. gentlemen, what is all this leading to? What does it all lead up to? I am one of those who thoroughly believe that we are creators of destiny, that while we are creators ourselves, while we have the power of great creative faculties which is seen on every hand, there is a power, a higher power, that develops creative faculties in a different way, and I believe that we all are endowed with that genius that will lead up to and carry out the purposes of a greater Creator in the purposes that he may have in store for the world generally. Now, I should have mentioned in connection with Lord Salisbury's name and the Hon. Mr. Chamberlain's name, another great name on this continent, who probably has exercised his

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