

Canadians and English in the United States not only impotence but disrespect and actual contumely. The origin, the language, the institutions of the Republic are British, and British is almost every name of high distinction in her annals. Yet it is hardly possible to take up an American journal or to listen to an American debate without reading or hearing something insulting to the British race and name. I have heard a member of Congress, one of the better and more high-minded class, deplore the foul and calumnious invectives against the Mother Country to which he is compelled to listen. These are tributes paid by the cowardice and hypocrisy of journalists and the politicians to the sinister activity of the Irish in politics, the clanishness with which they hold together, and the concentrated force with which their vote is wielded by their bosses and their priests. The tribute will cease to be paid when there is not only an Irish but a Canadian and a British vote. By reasonable self-assertion in the political sphere you redeem not only yourselves from degradation, but the Republic from self-abasement.

Worse than political contumely may possibly be the consequences of abstention. Canadians and Englishmen may some day find themselves involved, and perhaps called upon as citizens to serve, in an unrighteous war against the Mother Country, brought on by the sycophancy of journalists and politicians who, to gratify Irish malignity, traduce and bully Great Britain. The Republic would not go into such a war with her eyes open; but it is not with their eyes open that nations are led into unnecessary and unjust wars.