

in Winnipeg when I was there, and he was accustomed to say publicly and privately that as the ships of the Hudson Bay Company had gone in and out of Hudson's Bay for two hundred years, it might be expected that steamships could carry on an important trade there. Archangel, in Russia, with its 20,000 people, has a climate worse than that of the Nelson River, and yet it was and is an important port. The Canadian Pacific Road will carry to England all the tea that the mother islands bring from Japan and China. A study of Manitoba and of British Columbia, and of that mighty region of the Saskatchewan Valley, through which the warm isotherms runs north so far, has doubled my respect for the political and industrial future of the Canadian Dominion.

The Australia Confederation has already been adopted. England is urging it upon the colonies in the south of Africa. Federalism is the natural outcome of self-government in neighbouring sister States.

The colonies are very proud of their loyalty, but equally attached to their self-government. But if they were ruled as the Thirteen States were when colonies, they would revolt in an hour.

Many of you, riding up and down through the counties of England, and reading in the daily journals the reports of Parliamentary business, have no doubt raised the question why England does not relieve Parliament, the most overworked body in Christendom, from a large amount of attention to local affairs, and give these over to local legislatures. Why should England not change her great counties and group her small ones into States? This re-organization of England on the American plan is precisely what Matthew Arnold recommended. He hoped that Home Rule in Ireland itself may be achieved in this way. He would divide Ireland into three or four great States, give each a legislature, and allow each local rule. He would divide Scotland into two States, a highland and a lowland; and Wales into two, a north and a south; and he would make several great commonwealths of the counties of England. He is bold enough to confess that he would substitute for the House of Lords a body of Senators, elected by the proposed new local legislatures.

Mr. Gladstone thinks it probable that in the year 2,000 there will be one thousand millions of English-speaking people in the world. In a letter addressed to an American correspondent, he says:

"What a prospect is that of very many hundreds of millions of people, certainly among the most manful and energetic in the world, occupying one great continent, I may almost say two, and other islands and territories not easy to be counted, with these islands at their head, the most historic in the world. In contact, by a vast commerce, with all mankind, and perhaps still united in kindly political association with some more hundreds of millions fitted for no mean destiny; united almost absolutely in blood and language, and very largely in religion, laws and institutions.

"If anticipations such as these are to be realized in any considerable degree, the prospect is at once majestic, inspiring and consolatory. The subject is full of meaning and of power; of so much meaning that the pupil of the eye requires time to let in such a flood of light. Clearly, if the English-speaking people shall be anything like what we have now been supposing, and if there shall not be a good understanding among them, there will have been a base desertion of an easy duty a *gran rifiuto*, such as might stir another Dante to