

ANGLO-SAXON FEDERATION.

KOMUS.

While rummaging in my study I came across a portion of an old unpublished manuscript which may be of interest at the present time. The part which remains intact deals with public questions of considerable moment to-day. The subject matter concerns all true Canadians, Britons, and Americans; so I need make no apology for sending it to the press. This brief preface is quite sufficient for the writing explains itself.

"If some day, an old castle, like a giant phonograph, should commence to repeat, in order, the sounds which throughout past centuries have echoed through its halls, how wondering tourists would listen, in amazement, to tales of joy and sorrow, shouts of revelry and cries of distress, curses of soldiers and prayers of saints. There is nothing in this world which could arouse such universal interest. From every part of the world, by water and by land, a motley multitude would assemble to attend such an unique entertainment. Old resorts would be abandoned by crowds eager to hear the voices of the clamorous castle.

How terrible, then, must be the combined cries of agony, and how joyful the united peals of laughter, which have, for ages, beaten upon the strand of time as the rolling billows upon the shores of the sea. God's phonograph shall judge the world.

Everything speaks to me of the past. If old ruins do not in thunderous tones repeat the sounds of by gone-days to gaping throngs they, none the less, suggest thoughts which are often sublime. As the spirit of nature communes with the spirit of the poet so those old walls, and keeps, and towers, quietly converse with my mind. Frequently, my imagination has constructed so vivid a castle in the air that I have impulsively risen to admire

its beauty, and explore its wonders. Thus places acquire a powerful influence over the thoughts and actions of men. The battle fields on which Britons have conquered powerful foes inspire our armies, and help to make our soldiers courageous to-day.

The mind of man resembles a musical instrument. Its faculties respond to the influence of circumstances as the strings of the harp vibrate to the touch of the harper. Our surroundings make us happy or sad. The laws of nature are not limited and irregular. The same combination of causes will produce the same effect whether now, or ages hence, whether in Europe, or Australia.

My stay with Lord Sopho had been very pleasant. When alone, we often discussed political questions. As was to be expected from our different stations in life, our views upon practical questions seldom agreed. As a Canadian I always championed the rights of the masses while he, almost invariably, supported the supremacy of the classes. This difference between our opinions was apparent in every sphere of thought.

He contended that progress in society was due to the exertions of heroic men who laboured to improve the conditions and elevate the thoughts of the grovelling masses; while I as vigorously asserted that all advance in civilization was the result of the united efforts of the people; that his heroes were the natural products of the tendencies, and aspirations of all mankind. He maintained that, without the ennobling influences of master minds, men would soon return to their old savage state; while I argued that, without the inspiration of a noble people, master minds would never rise like bright stars above the horizon of ordinary ability. When he pointed to the marvellous works