

it be fair to ask them—to lay aside all feeling for their native land, and who therefore cannot look at questions affecting the colonial tie in the same light as Canadians look at them.

So, too, there are a number of aged Europeans in the Senate, imperial pensioners in semi-public life, and commercial adventurers in the press, and, so long as these people can restrain Canada from becoming anything greater than a mere knot in the tail of a European kite, just so long will they put forth all their efforts to that end. But they cannot live forever. They will have their day, such as it is, and then they will pass away and make room for men who are racy of the soil, men who would have Canada something better than a mere cow pasture, and who believe that the day must inevitably come when Canada will cease to be a mere appanage of the British Crown and take her proper place among the nations of the world.

Already, as we have said, the great majority of our representatives are natives of the soil. The number will go on increasing; the political parties will be led by Canadian statesmen; the public journals will be written by Canadian writers, and the feelings, the aspirations, the sentiments, of the whole people will become Canadianized. The idea that Canada must always remain a mere dependency of the Mother Country is a dream in which none but foolish old men indulge. They live in a past age; they do not see that the country is expanding, that it has come of age, and that the great bulk of the people of to-day are not immigrants and foreigners, but native born. No sane man, either on this side of the Atlantic or the other, believes that Canada has no future save that of a mere colony. The severance of the colonial tie must come sooner or later.

It may not come this year, it may not come in the next; but come it must. And then? This is the question, of all others, Canadians are most concerned in discussing; but it is also the very question of all others that they are, by strongest warnings, forbidden to discuss. Surely it is better to know if our course