

Empire of the North stands-out in all its grandeur, and in all the brilliancy of its magnificent future! Some hard matter-of-fact thinker, some keen utilitarian, some plodding man of business, may point the finger of scorn at us and deem all this but an empty shadow,—but the fleeting fantasy of a dreamer. Be it so. Time is a worker of miracles,—ay, and of sober realities too; and when we look east and west and north,—when we cause the goodly band of the North-men from Acadia, and Canada, and the North-West, and the Columbia, and the Britain of the Pacific, to defile before us, a noble army of hardy spirits encased in stalwart forms,—who are the masters of so vast a territory, of a heritage of such surpassing value! and when we remember the rapid rise into the greatness of one of the powers of the earth, of the former American Colonies, and look back over their progress, who can doubt of the future of these British Provinces, or of the entire and palpable reality of that vision which rises so grandly before us of the Great British Empire of the North,—of that new English-speaking nation which will at one and no distant day people all this Northern continent,—a Russia, as has been well said, it may be, but yet an English Russia, with free