

be harmonious before we can join harmoniously with others. If after forty years of practice we cannot keep in tune with our seven selves, how are we going to get on with singers from all over the world with voices quite unlike our own?

I suggest nothing but that it is futile and foolish to endeavor to change human nature. I observe that in Britain "the interests of the Empire" are conceived as "the interests of the United Kingdom," and that the special interests of Canada enter very little into the estimate. I do not complain of that, for it is absolutely unavoidable. That great writer on "The Government of Dependencies" (Sir Geo. Cornewall Lewis) says truly that "the evils arising to the dependency from the ignorance of the dominant country respecting its concerns are enhanced by its indifference. Not only does the dominant country know little of those concerns, but it has little desire to know anything of them. Men's sympathies are in general too narrow to comprehend a community which is distinct from their own, although it may be ultimately subject to the same supreme government. Accordingly the maxim that government exists for the benefit of the governed, is generally considered by the individual subjects of a supreme government as applicable only to themselves; and it is often proclaimed openly that dependencies are to be governed, not for their own benefit, but for the benefit of the dominant state" (pp. 247, 8). "In this manner," he adds at another page, "the people of the dependency become the sport of questions and interests in which they are not concerned, and the nature of which they do not understand" (p. 276).

That is all perfectly inevitable, and I do not complain of it. But we shall go stupidly wrong if we, too, are induced to regard "the interests of the Empire" as the interests of the United Kingdom merely. It must be our part, and our duty, to widen the knowledge and the sympathies of the dominant country, by assertion and insistence upon the interests of Canada, so that treaties, and declarations, and prosecutions of war may have some relation to their effect upon us and upon our country. We are "the sport of questions we do not even understand"! How many of us understand why