

mean to imply that Mr. Rhodes never expressed his views in public, or that his speeches, awkward and chaotic as they were, gave no indication of the character of the man. They did, in fact, show very clearly the more ordinary and more English side of him: his energy and determination, his kindness and good humour, at once emphasised and tempered by the blunt sincerity we know so well; his courage both in action and in thought. It was also evident to all but very prejudiced observers that wealth was not to him an end in itself. But to say that money is only desired for the sake of power, and power for the public service, is but to push the inquiry forward by one stage. We knew that Mr. Rhodes was an Imperialist: but that was not enough; we are all Imperialists now: what we were in doubt about was his ideal of Empire, his analysis of life, his comparative estimate of values.

The revelation, now that it has come, is the more surprising because it establishes at least one marked inconsistency, and shows the existence of an alien, or at any rate an uncommon strand in a character hitherto taken to be of all-British fibre. Or is it no longer unusual among English "city men" to hold that "educational relations form the strongest tie," to put "literary and scholastic attainments" in the first rank of equipments, and to value a university education "for instruction in life and manners" and—most astonishing of all—"for giving breadth to their views?" And do these opinions normally co-exist with a vigorous and repeatedly expressed conviction that it is of no use to have "big ideas unless you have the cash to carry them out?" Yet this inconsistency, this complexity, certainly existed in the mind of a man who was in some respects as simple as a child, and who, in many of his ways, held up the mirror to John Bull himself. We recognise in a flash that he was un-English in other respects too; in the nature of his self-seeking and his unscrupulousness. It was for others through himself that he worked; for others that he fell: in a good cause he would not hesitate to sacrifice his own reputation, his own conscience; for the Empire's sake