

should we regard the strong moral conviction which is growing up that in these days of overcrowding the resources of the rich portions of the earth cannot be allowed to run to waste in the hands of semi-civilised peoples who will not develop them.

These tendencies we have to reckon with, and if we decide that it is imprudent to oppose them, then we must desist from our policy of supporting uncivilised against civilised people. We must be true to ourselves, and trust our own strength, and if combinations of European Powers are brought against us, secure a European, or still better an American ally, on our side. Executive ministers, with the great weight of a huge empire on them, no doubt have all our little weak points sparkling in their eyes; and the strength of our opponents looms large before them. They shrink from any possible risk, and are inclined to clutch on to the nearest person who can assist them, and the nearest person is the one who is also threatened. But our enemy, when viewed at close quarters, is very far from being so strong as he looks from London. He makes a brave show to impress people, but he is perfectly well