

known divorce lawyers in the United States. He probably appears in more of such cases, in New York and the East, than any other attorney.) Recent decisions of the supreme court of the United States accentuate the aband conflict existing between the laws

of marriage and divorce in different status of the Union. While the judges of the highest tribunal in the land did nothing more than coinside with the views expressed repeatedly by judges of the supreme court of New York. they have again attracted attention to the distressing complications result-

ing from legal divergencies. This is a very serious object, about which too much cannot be said, as agitation may bring about a needed reform.

Who can go over the facts without coming to the conclusion that there is something radically wrong at present? Is it proper that one woman should be a man's legal wife in Brookyin, while another is bound to him in holy wellock in Sioux Falls; that he should be a bigamist here, an observer of the mariage law there? Stop a moment and consider the serious complications hat are bound to result, affecting not property rights, but, what is still important, the legitimacy of off-ig. These vital questions are now gulated by geography.

he case carried to the supreme court the United States involves this point: A man goes to South Dakota, suis divorce and obtains a decree which did in that state, giving him the vilege of contracting another mar-His first wife has not placed elf within the jurisliction of the ourt and has interposed no defense. to has retained her rights in her own and she remains his wife. may turn around and sue him for a di-, naming wife No. 2 as co-respond-

But supose that she does not see fit sue. The husband may establish a me in the West and live there some time, raising a family. He may then conclude to return East to the woman he had left, and who is still his wife and he may have more children. each family is legitimate at home, il-

Carry the example a little further and where do you get? A man may be a polygamist with a dozen wives and families scattered through as many erent states. Each is bound to him, by the laws of the state where the marriage was contracted, and he may mys have acted within the letter of he law in contracting and in severing his marital ties. Again it comes down

some places such a marriage would be

If a perse- has no grounds for dihere, he can surely find some

a residence. The mismated must always avoid one state, South arolina, where no divorces are granted for any cause.

ed for any cause. Even for a first marriage it is some-times essential to study the geography. A man may clore with a girl who is less than 16 in New Jersev and con-tract a valid marriage with her, where-as in New York he would be guilty of abduction, and liable to a term of im-prisonment In New Mexico the bride would have

to be less than 14 to fall within the statute of clandestine marriages. In

THE SCEPTER PASSES FROM BRITAIN

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C. N. Bliss, Isidor Straus and General Porter to London as representatives of the New York Chamber of Commerce has set people thinking. Every one is delighted that they are here, and nothing will be left undone to make their visit an international incident, less showy, perhaps, but much more significant than the recent visit of the Italian warships to French Meditermanean ports.

We know that it has no political significance, Jesop is the bearer of no credentials from Secretary Hay or Presi-dent McKinley. Nevertheless it is se-cretly feit, rather than publicly ad-mitted, that his appearance has a far vaster significance. He heralds the formal, final and irrevocable installa-tion of the English of the English tion of the younger branch of the English-speaking race in the primacy of the world. British ministers, financial magnates and our proudest nobles will do them honor, but not in the speeches at any banquets will a word be whis-pered that will reveal the true sigalficance of the event, but ever in our bearts we are muttering, "Te morituri

Now John Bull, having for a century swaggered in the forefront of the world, cannot be expected to hall with en-thusiasm or even with philosophical resignation that festival which celebrated his abdication. But, although the truth may be somewhat bitter, nothing is gained by attempting to disulse facts, and the British nation is eginning sullenly to recognize that ith the close of the Victorian era is ended the supremacy of Britain among ¹⁰ commercial nations of the world. In the Nineteenth Century, which ap-

pears today, Andrew Carnegie sets himself in a cheery vein of genial op-timism to chide John Bull for abandonng himself to what seems to the Laird f Skibo castle an unnecessary fit of the lues. His article, which is admirably written(for there is not a more lucid fiter than Mr. Carnegie in the English-speaking world), is not calculated to do much in the way of consoling

e to whom it is addressed. By will, indeed, rather be disposed They regard Mr. Carnegie as a Job's com-

"Cheer up, John Buli," says the mas-ter of many millions. "Don't let your spirits go down. True, there is no doubt you are licked, hopelessly, irrevocably licked ked, by the United States, and that nothing that you can do can ever re-store you to the pride of place which you have lost, but if you will only make up your mind to recognize that you t henceforth play second fiddle to le Sam you can still comfort your by the thought that you are not

likely to be beaten by anybody else. "English blood has not deteriorated." e sterling qualities which gave you supremacy of the whole world will suffice if you take care to retain primacy of the old world, but even that depends upon yourself, and unless you pull yourself together and reverse the policy upon which you have re-cently embarked and make a radically new departure you are lost beyond al

Pleasant message this from Mr. Car-



Fred Nelson, 27 West First So.