FOR WHAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED—

There is a sad lack of imagination about the long list of Jubilee honours. Had a master mind but grasped the idea that here for once there was a chance of assigning Imperial recognition to the men who have contributed during these sixty years to the extension of electric communication by telegraph and telephone, and the advent of photography. All these are products of the eighteenth century, and the materials of which some of them are made—iron rather than brass—might have been very different and much more distinguished names. In defiance of the obvious facts that England is essentially a naval Power, and that the progress distinctive of the Queen’s reign has been essentially in the materials and processes of commerce rather than in military prowess, in the arts of peace rather than in the arts of war, the authorities who rule the dispensing of Royal favour have made the military element overshadow all others in the Jubilee list. Just as the Jubilee procession was planned on exclusively military lines till one grew weary of the eternal dragonos and hussars, so in the Jubilee list one is sickened with the repetition of Lieutenant-General This and Lieutenant-Colonel That, to the exclusion of men who have done something to move the world forward. For example, there are ninety-six C.B.’s in the list, of whom sixty-three bear military titles, five only appear to belong to the navy, and at least half the remainder appear to be attached to the Civil Service as administrators of departmental routine. Germany and the Germans are again over-emphasised. Not content with the German (and broken English) themselves, the Royal Family have proceeded to heap honours on all the German princes who flocked over to the celebration. The abnormal precedence over the older branch of the service in the giving of honours to the army is strictly in accordance with the best traditions of Germany. The one bright feature, the one point in which there has been a departure from antiquated tradition, is the recognition of the Colonial Premiers. This is distinctly good. It is a beginning of a glimmer of the Imperial idea that is given to the Crown. The nation at large cheered the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier with right good will as one who had achieved something, and they cheered Maurice Gifford, because he had suffered something, for the Empire. For the rest, the list might have been compiled on such a basis as that of Lord Salisbury, as a list for the men who have helped to make our Empire, and our Empire of no mean value, and you shall be decorated with titles and baroneties. An official who hopes to achieve distinction either in literature or science. An official who hopes to achieve distinction either in literature or science.

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honour fallen. The University Colleges of the provincial towns—a purely Victorian growth of great and increasing intellectual importance—are treated as non-existent. The lack of imagination has triumphed over all that might have been.