

On Saturday, January 13th, Mrs. Murray telegraphed to the Mayors of our Provincial Capitals, as follows:—

“Will the women of (Toronto, etc.,) join the women of Montreal in federating as Daughters of the Empire, in inviting the women of Australia and New Zealand to join the federation, and in sending to the Queen an expression of our devotion to the Empire, and an Emergency War Fund, to be expended as Her Majesty shall deem fit.”

Replies were enthusiastically unanimous. Action must be prompt, efficient, universal, and suited to every class of the community.

The Chairman of the Canadian branch of the Red Cross Society, Dr. G. Sterling Ryerson, had telegraphed from Toronto: “Why should not the women of Canada equip a hospital ship?” The idea of a hospital ship Mrs. Murray considered impracticable, Canada being far from military and naval centres, and a hospital ship would take too long. It would be very costly. The money would largely be sunk in the ship itself, and, the ship would be available only by water.

Mrs. Murray read the Constitution she had prepared for the proposed Federation, which would explain more fully the development of the idea:—

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—NAME.

The name of the Federation shall be THE DAUGHTERS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, with branches for young people called “CHILDREN OF THE EMPIRE.”

ARTICLE II.—MEMBERSHIP.

All women and young people of Great Britain and Her Colonies, by Birth, Adoption or Residence, may become Members, individually, or in Clubs called “Chapters.”

ARTICLE III.—OBJECTS.

The aim of the Federation shall be:—1. To stimulate, and to give expression to, the sentiment of patriotism which binds the Women of the Empire around the Throne and Person of their Gracious and Beloved Sovereign. 2. To supply and foster a Bond of Union among the Daughters of the Queen in whatever part of Her vast Empire they may reside. 3. To provide an efficient organization by which prompt and united action may be taken by the women of the Empire when such action may be desired. 4. To promote in the Motherland and in the Colonies the study of the History of the Empire and of current Imperial questions; to celebrate patriotic anniversaries; to cherish the memory of brave and heroic deeds, and the last resting-places of our Heroes and Heroines, especially such as are in distant and solitary places; to erect memorial