

more considerate of her colonies in every part of the world.

It is important to bear in mind the difference between Federation and Imperial Federation. By the former the colonies of Australia will be united in one dominion, or, as many prefer to call it, one republic. This will do away with the inland custom houses which they have erected against each other, and give them, if they wish, a uniform protective policy against other countries. Imperial Federation means the bringing of all the colonies and possessions into a yet closer union for the enlargement of the naval and military forces of the British Empire, and the protection and security of all. Many who favour Federation in the interest of harmony and for the dismissal of petty rivalries among the colonies of Australia, such as followed the federation of the provinces and districts in Canada, are strongly opposed to being brought into closer relations with the home government or India, and thus be compelled to participate in wars thousands of miles away, and with whose origin they had nothing to do.

Should the Australian Colonies form a powerful federation, they are so remote from the British Isles, and are making such progress, that a spirit of independence will probably be developed which may at least prevent Imperial Federation, because the new Federation can hope to have its own army and navy ample for defence against any foe likely to seek them in their remote quarter of the Pacific. The tariff question enters largely into that of Imperial Federation, as while free trade obtains in Great Britain, some of the Colonies insist on protecting their industries against the goods of both England and India. Neither will be inclined to yield, and it is probable that Lord Salisbury, despite the

favour with which the Conservative Cabinet regarded Imperial Federation when last in power, may decline, as he did in 1889, to summon a meeting of representatives from various parts of the Empire to consider the possibility of establishing a closer union.

It is safe to say that England will not risk her annual exports to the Colonies, amounting to \$398,000,000, for any ideal theories of Imperial rule. She is first of all a nation of traders, and it is her immense trade which makes her mistress of the seas. A powerful navy is possible only to a people of great wealth, and it is England's commerce which gives her, and will continue to give her for many years, the commanding place in the Pacific with both merchant, marine, and war-ships.

Many of the most thoughtful students of the question of Greater Britain are, like the late Prof. Seeley, of Cambridge, quite perplexed as to the position of India, where the Government is between three fires : Russia, Mohammedanism, with its 50,000,000, and a possible insurrection among her 150,000,000 of Hindus. War with any Mussulman Power would doubtless mean the uprising of her large Mohammedan population. Emisaries from an unfriendly nation might be able to so move the Hindu population as to put in serious peril the 200,000 English now living in India, and divide the British forces which might be needed on the frontier, in the event of an aggressive policy on the part of Russia.

Already Great Britain rules over twice as many people in India as the Roman Empire embraced in its widest prosperity. Her superior organization is the explanation of her success where other conquerors held only temporary sway. The very industries which are being taught her Indian subjects may