

Opinions of Colonial Statesmen.

"Britain's Fleet is the instrument of power and the symbol of her unity. British ships of war are the safeguard of Colonial liberty, and the natural chain which holds the scattered communities together. The Fleet, therefore, ought to be one. Division is weakness, and the old story of the bundle of sticks has here its proper application. Let there be one Navy, under the rule of a single Admiralty—a Navy in which the Colonies shall be as much interested as the Mother Country, which shall be theirs as well as hers, and on which they may all rely in time of danger."—The late Right Hon. W. B. DALLEY, Chief Secretary of New South Wales.

"It would be difficult to say what would be the position of Australia if war should break out; but if the Navy of Great Britain was kept at its proper strength, relatively to the Navies of other countries, the Colonies would have nothing to fear."—The Hon. JAMES SERVICE, Ex-Premier of Victoria.

Melbourne Argus, December 19th, 1893.

"The control of the ocean is of importance to every man who grows a bag of wheat in the Colonies. What is the good of producing and exporting if the produce is not to be secured a safe transit across the water?"—The Hon. J. B. PATTERSON, Premier of Victoria.

Melbourne Argus, December 19th, 1893.

"I do not think the Colonies would be disinclined to contribute towards the cost of the Imperial Navy on well-defined terms. . . .

"I believe an able Government of the United Kingdom would, if it tried, succeed in bringing the whole of the outlying possessions to a satisfactory agreement with the Mother Country."—Sir JULIUS VOGEL, K.C.M.G., Ex-Premier of New Zealand.

The Times, April 7th, 1894.