

not officials, to represent the government of the Dominions" (p. 547). "Everything tends to show that the Committee of Imperial Defence will develop as a mode for the time being of assisting the appreciation of foreign affairs by the Dominions" (p. 550).

Mr. Keith's whole treatment of this question of a voice in the control of foreign policy is characteristically sane and noble. It does not follow that to share the responsibility by taking common counsel in matters of foreign policy involves sharing authority, as Mr. Asquith would seem to have put it in the Imperial Conference in 1911. Moreover, except in the literal constitutional sense, it certainly increases the responsibility of the Imperial government. For it would be a serious step to act contrary to the deliberate advice of the Dominions, and the necessity of justifying such a course to Parliament might sometimes exert a salutary influence. Mr. Keith warns both Imperial and Dominion ministers against constructing too hastily the hard dilemma involved in this sharing of authority.

(3) Lastly, Mr. Keith points to the object lesson of the present war in strategy. Civilization is being saved, we hope, by the presence of the Grand Fleet in the North Sea, and by this alone. The Fleet does not exist to draw the Empire together but to defend it, and sentiment must give way to strategy. He urges therefore that defence should be conceived upon an Imperial basis. The chapter on naval defence is singularly convincing and moderate. Local pride and patriotic sentiment could be sufficiently met by the possession of naval bases, cruisers, submarines and destroyers.

Adoption of the foregoing counsels would, Mr. Keith conceives, constitute an Imperial partnership, a moral partnership, human, workable for perhaps an indefinite period, expressing in good measure the instinct which brought about the marvellous rally of the Empire in August 1914, and leaving further development to the future. The advantage of such a partnership in the matter of India should