

short-sighted jingo politicians of the United States, apparently without knowing it, by their narrow, unfriendly attitude towards Canada, are actually strengthening the ties which bind us to the mother country, and promoting that unification of the empire which is emerging from the region of dream-land and assuming a form and direction which point to its realization at no distant day." And while I believe this excellent editorial to be entirely sincere, it was published a fortnight before a general election, when its publication would certainly have been postponed, if its sentiments were believed to be at all unpopular.

Mr. Chamberlain is perhaps right in thinking that no "pressure" from the imperial parliament or government would aid or expedite federation, though a friendly invitation to a partnership could hardly be resented and might possibly hasten a decision. But it would prevent some risk of misapprehension if the initiative should come from a self-governing colony. In Canada public sentiment is perhaps already ripe for a proposal ; and an over-ripe fruit will decay. And, besides, while we are delaying to propose a scheme of closer union for fear of its being premature, the lack of closer union may destroy the empire. The hour is surely at hand, if it has not already come ; but where is the man ?

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