

IMPERIAL AND NATIONAL SPIRIT 13

to enmity, i waning—and must be destroyed by the machinery of Federal government—but it is, however, sufficiently pronounced to-day to rouse the scorn of all sensible men. The humour of the situation is that every man you meet in Sydney or Melbourne will agree with you on the general principle. "Yes," says the Sydney man, "you are quite right; but I am sure you do not find the jealousy in Sydney to anything like the same extent you do in Melbourne." "Of course," says the Melbourne man, "this parochial feeling to which you refer would soon disappear if it were not for the absurd jealousy of Sydney over Melbourne's prosperity." Each State is able to provide for the patient, listening visitor, like myself, convincing statistics that in regard to one point or other that State is more prosperous per head of the population than the neighbour State or any part of the globe's surface.

In my journeys I heard too much talk about State advancement and too little about Australia's advancement. Here was a marked difference from what I had noticed in Canada. There a man is proud of Ontario or British Columbia or Manitoba; but first, last, and all the time he is a Canadian. To say there is absolutely no Australian national sentiment would be an injustice to plenty of representative men. The ordinary Australian, if the question were put to him, would insist that there is a national sentiment, and very likely be indignant with myself for suggesting that it is small. He would point to the defence movement: compulsory training and the establishment of a local navy.