

The establishment of the British Empire League, the formation of the Colonial Defence Committee, the celebration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887, the inauguration of the Colonial Conferences and the active propaganda carried on by leading newspapers and prominent publicists during the period covered by those events were in due time to have their effect. The opportunity which the Imperialists had been awaiting came with the outbreak of the South African war in 1901. The movement by this time had been well advanced and all that was required was a leader with the necessary vigor and boldness to direct it. Such a leader was found in the person of Joseph Chamberlain. A man of commanding ability and great force of character Chamberlain united to the devices of the politician the genius and vision of the statesman. With greater penetration than any previous Imperial statesman he perceived the vast potentialities of the great overseas dominions and the immense aid that they might afford to the Mother Country, to that weary Titan struggling under the burden of Empire, as he described Great Britain. Whilst he lived Chamberlain was the moving spirit of the Imperialistic movement and so mightily did he impress his dominant personality upon it and such a momentum did he give it that after his disappearance it thrived with greater strength than ever and attained a success which even its masterful leader probably never anticipated.

From a very early period it had been the dream of the Imperialists to secure the recognition of the principle that colonial troops should participate in all wars of the Empire and thus lessen the military burden of Great Britain. No such idea had been contemplated by Imperial statesmen prior to Confederation, the principle on the contrary being fully recognized that the *sôle obligation* of the colonies was to look after their own territorial defence. Even during the Crimean war when Great Britain and France were fighting side by side as allies against Russia, it was never even suggested that Canada should send troops to participate in the struggle. Naturally the descendents