

once more face to face with a Toronto audience. (Applause.) He was well repaid for his journey by a pilgrimage northward on Yonge street. (Laughter.) He congratulated the ladies upon their attendance. His friend from Albert (Mr. Weldon) had said that the ladies welcomed him (Mr. Davin). Well, it was only right and proper that they should. (Laughter.) He had always entertained a very high opinion of the ladies, and they occupied a very large place in his affections. (Cheers and laughter.) If the movement in favor of Imperial Federation did nothing else than bring men of different sentiment together to discuss so large a question it would not have resulted in vain. He did not believe that any people in the world existed under more free or liberal condition than did the people of Canada. (Applause.) It was not to be presumed that in case a satisfactory federation of the Empire could not be obtained that annexation must follow. Such an idea was preposterous, as the Canadian people could stand in their own shoes as competitors with any people in the world. (Cheers.) The Canadian people had a magnificent future before them, one calculated to produce the envy of other countries less fortunate in the matter of resources. The past had been with the United States, the future was for Canada. (Applause.) There were millions of acres yet untenanted in the prairie regions of the great North-west which offered an incomparable home, under the old flag, to the surplus population of the older Britain. (Applause.) He did not despair of the ultimate consummation of a scheme of Imperial Federation which would increase in a short time the population of the country to twenty or thirty millions. There was indomitable pluck, courage and perseverance in the people of Canada who realized their vast possessions and loyally worked together in furtherance of their development. (Applause.) The population of the North-west was prosperous and contented, and even in the remotest part of that illimitable domain the hearts of the people beat as true to the British flag, as true to the heart of the Empire as did those of the people of the Queen city of the west—Queen city of Ontario he meant. (Loud laughter and applause.)

Mr. Davin—I was thinking of Regina. (Loud laughter.)

He would use his influence in parliament to have the scheme matured in practical shape, but he wished to emphasize his faith in the future that awaited the Dominion of Canada. (Applause.) He spoke with a knowledge of the feelings of the people of the North-west in saying that they wanted neither Commercial Union, annexation or amihilation. (Loud applause.) What would be thought of such men as he saw before him if

they lost faith in the future of the country, with its resources unparalleled in agriculture and minerals. (Applause.) Such a thing was impossible and he implored them by the memories of Ral-eighs, Blakes and Drakes to stand shoulder to shoulder in working out the destiny of Canada by the development of her industries, by inculcating a national sentiment and by defending and maintaining to the last British connection and Imperial sovereignty. (Loud cheers.)

#### Progress Towards Federation.

Mr. Dalton McCarthy, M.P., President of the Imperial Federation League, was greeted with a regular ovation on rising to propose the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is not at this stage of the movement necessary, nor in view of the numerous interests involved expedient, that any precise scheme of carrying into practical working the principles of Imperial Federation should be defined, but this meeting is glad to know that the recent Colonial Conference, at which matters of interest common to the Mother Country and her colonies, were discussed, was the direct outcome of the parent League established in London only four short years ago, and it may well be that out of succeeding conferences of this kind is to be evolved the best and most suitable method of carrying into effect the federative principle which the League has been established to promote.

He said he felt an unusual diffidence on that occasion, although not unaccustomed to public speaking—(laughter)—in rising to address such a magnificent gathering of his fellow citizens upon the practical details of the question, so far as they could yet be spoken of, and which they were met to endorse by their presence. (Applause.) He felt that they labored under a difficulty in presenting their case to some extent, owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Foster, a Minister of the Crown who was detained by pressing departmental business, and also his friend Mr. Charles Tupper, who was fast rising into fame in the House of Commons as an able debater, who was prevented from being present owing to family sickness. He did not, however, feel ashamed of the speakers who had addressed the meeting. He never heard a case more ably or clearly presented, and the meeting itself augured well for the future success of the movement. (Applause.) The man who ignored the patriotism of the people which burned in their breasts, was incapable of the highest degree of statesmanship. (Applause.) It was not because they had been told that, during a brief period of trade relationship with the States, an advantage had accrued to Canada, that they were going to turn their backs upon the grand old Mother Country which had protected her colonies in every emergency. (Loud applause.) He did not think that the practical Canadian people were prepared to endorse any scheme which did not hold out any hope,