

lifted out of the sphere of partisan conflict, that Dominion statesmen will less frequently make the naïve confession of Sir Charles Tupper (*Recollections of Sixty Years*, p. 95), or Imperial statesmen regret the partisan use of the grave situation in Natal in 1906.

Mr. Keith does not feel the weaknesses of the party system so keenly as Mr. Lash, but his solid volume bears a curious resemblance to the latter's modest book. It has an equally definite and practical purpose, being on the whole nothing less than an exhaustive argument for a series of clearly defined suggestions, which are presented in the conclusion for the consideration of the Imperial Conference at the close of the war. These suggestions would complete responsible government in Canada in the fields of the declaration of martial law, the dissolution of Parliament, the exercise of the prerogative of pardon, and the regulation of merchant shipping, where Canadian autonomy is not yet as complete as may be supposed. The Revised Statutes of 1906, for instance, embody a Copyright Act of 1889 and an Act providing for the marking of deck and load lines, neither of which the Imperial government has yet sanctioned. The power, moreover, of the Imperial government to reserve or disallow Dominion legislation should disappear. It should be possible, where Imperial interests are really involved, to secure modification in Dominion legislation by negotiation. Failing this, in a case of grave emergency, the Imperial Parliament could pass paramount legislation. Such legislation would be manifestly difficult to secure, and the recognition of this difficulty might be turned to political use in the Dominions. But, as against this undoubted danger, the sense of responsibility would be increased in the Dominions and might be trusted. He further urges that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council be transformed into a supreme court of final appeal for the Empire, by including in its members permanent and effective representation from the Dominions and transferring to it judicial appeals in the United Kingdom, which are now heard in the House of Lords. The Dominions should also be repre-