

APPENDIX III

EXTRACT FROM A PAMPHLET ON IMPERIAL FEDERATION. BY THE
AUTHOR OF THIS BOOK.

(See page 397)

According to Mr. Chamberlain, then, the great object the Imperial Federationists have in view, the "goal" to be gradually approached, the "desirable consummation" ever to be kept in view, is to create "a new Government for the British Empire, with large powers of taxation and legislation over countries separated by thousands of miles of sea."

As a matter of fact, without such a Government there could be no real Imperial Federation. And with such a body, what further use would there be for our Dominion Parliament and Government? As we would then be largely governed from London their occupation and usefulness would practically be gone, although I suppose our noble Parliamentary buildings, at whose Gothic beauty so many Canadians have gazed with growing feelings of national pride, might be utilized as a great lunatic asylum or home for incurables! If the people of Canada ever consented to a policy so fatuous, we would certainly need such an institution.

From the foregoing, and many other considerations, most British statesmen have heretofore regarded Imperial Federation as an "idle dream," and irrespective of party, nearly all leading Canadians have been united against it. Sir John Macdonald frequently declared it to be "utterly impracticable." Sir Oliver Mowat had never seen any scheme which appeared to him practicable. Speaking in the House of Commons the Honourable Edward Blake told his hearers "they had passed the turn, if, indeed, there had ever been a road to Imperial Federation." In his Toronto speech, May 24th, 1900, Sir Charles Tupper described it as "utterly impracticable and utterly impossible." Sir Wilfrid Laurier is strongly opposed to it, and I am not aware that the Conservative leader, Mr. R. L. Borden, has ever declared himself in its favour.

During the period of the Commercial Union agitation, the New York *Herald* asked for publication the opinions of Sir John Macdonald, Sir Oliver Mowat, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and