

great State in the world, and conspicuously in the history of *States of which we share the blood and traditions*. The effects of such a Confederation, when it is voluntary and equal, are felt throughout all the complicated relations of a nation's life, adding immensely to its material and moral strength. By its concentrated power it exercises an increased gravitation in *attracting population and commerce*. It multiplies the national wealth by putting an end to jealous and wasteful competitions, and substituting the wise economy of power which teaches each district to apply itself to the industries in which it can attain the greatest success. *It enlarges the home market, which is the nursing mother of native manufactures*. It forms larger designs, engages in larger enterprises, and by its increased resources and authority causes them to be more speedily accomplished. It obtains additional security for peace by increasing its means of defence; and, *by creating a nation, it creates along with it a sentiment of nationality*—a sentiment which has been one of the strongest and most beneficent motive powers in human affairs. The method, indeed, by which States have grown great is almost uniform in history: *they gathered population and territory, and on these wings rose to material power; and with the sense of a common citizenship there speedily came, like a soul to the inert body, that public spirit by whose inspiration dangers are willingly faced and privations cheerfully borne in the sacred name of country*.

"4. We cannot doubt that it is the destiny of the Australian Colonies to *pursue a similar career, and their duty to prepare for it*. They possess resources and territory which *fit them to become in the end a great Empire*; they are occupied by a population already larger than the population of many sovereign States, and they yield a revenue greater than the revenue of six of the Kingdoms of Europe; and we believe they share the sentiments, which may be noted as among the most subtle and pervading influences of our century, the desire to *perfect the union and autonomy of peoples of the same origin*.

#### "II.—BEST MEANS OF EFFECTING A UNION.

"5. The form which a Federal Union ought to assume, and the time at which it ought to be brought into operation, are subjects which must be reserved for a Conference of Colonial Delegates accredited by the respective Governments and Legislatures concerned.

"6. In approaching the second question referred to us, however—the best means of effecting a union—it is necessary to point out that a federal compact for Legislative purposes may represent widely different ideas and measures of power. The Canadian Dominion furnishes the