

has been pending for the last eight years. The colonies comprising the federation are : New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia, West Australia and Queensland. The plan of union is similar to that of Canada, except wherein it relates to the legislature. The law-making power will be vested in a Senate and a House of Representatives. The members of the Senate, unlike those of the Canadian Upper House, shall be elected directly by the people, for a term of six years, while the representatives shall be elected for three years. The official title of the federation will be the "Commonwealth of Australia," and the provinces will henceforth be known as states.

Irish University. It is not difficult to picture the English Government refusing to grant a Catholic University to Ireland this year, as they have repeatedly done in the past. The stinginess, meanness, uncharitableness and injustice of England towards Ireland, in the matter of education alone, has become so deep-rooted that it seems it cannot be eradicated without a super-human effort. However, there is some ground for hope that the bill at present before Parliament will be carried through. The measure is receiving the support of Irish workers generally, and recently a large number of converts have been made among the other members of Parliament. It is interesting to follow the arguments brought to bear on Parliament for the passage of the bill. Of course the Irish statesmen insist on the measure as a simple act of justice towards Catholic Ireland, and as a right which she has every reason to expect. But there are others who are endeavoring to influence Parliament by a peculiar sort of logic. Among these is Mr. Balfour, who, in a letter recently to the Nonconformists, answered their objections to the University bill. The Nonconformists are trying to defeat the measure on the ground that, while they are striving for the disestablishment of the Anglican church, they cannot approve of favoring Catholicism or Presbyterianism in Ireland. So Mr. Balfour mildly rebukes them for their narrowness with these interesting statements : "Two Protestant universities to one for Roman Catholics, which, as there are nearly three Roman Catholics in that country to one Protestant, seems not unfair to the Protestant. That the scheme thus sketched out violates no accepted principle of legislation, that it