

## THE IMPERIAL IDEA

THE spontaneity with which the Colonial Volunteers responded to the intimation that Great Britain would accept their aid in the war in South Africa, came as a surprise and a revelation to the world; and the question is asked by the close observer of national life: Why this marvelous uprising of the Colonies in support of the Empire? Was it merely an outburst of patriotism, like a meteor flash, brilliant for a moment and then lost forever, or was it the expression of a deeply rooted sentiment that had been forming for years, guided by reason, accentuated by ties of blood and the principles of Magna Charta?