

is conceded by nearly all without reference to any party politics. I cannot do better than give you the views Mr. Forster foreshadowed in his first paper advocating its objects. By his death the League have lost a leader whom they can never replace, but he has left us the benefit of his matured wisdom. He laid great stress on the advantages to be derived from a council composed not only of the statesmen of Great Britain, but of delegates from all the Colonies. He argued "that in times when there may be danger of internal disunion, such a council, would in fact be a tribunal which would pass judgment on selfish, impulsive, and unreasonable proposals," and he quoted from Lord Grey's words, in adding what the influence would be in Great Britain "that when the English beyond the seas were unanimous in opposing her policy there would be a fair presumption that we were in the wrong." In matters relating to Colonial and Foreign difficulties, he admits that "they could not be safely solved without regard to colonial feeling and deference to colonial opinion." In reading this we cannot help reflecting had such a voice been raised when the first British Colonists on this Continent felt aggrieved and wronged, how different would have been the history of the last hundred years. Fortunately to-day we profit by the lessons taught both Great Britain and the Colonies by the painful issue then fought out. We can now meet and discuss not only what is best for our own particular and immediate interests, but what is best for a great Empire, which we did not make, but which it should be our first duty to consolidate and strengthen. May I not enlist on behalf of this movement