

in a paper proposing Imperial Federation the language of a colonial statesman so distinguished as Mr. Blake.

The Liberal party has plenty of life and hope in it. Two things prevent it from marching—a leader who does not thoroughly know his own mind, and an organ in the hands of very narrow and rancorous Tories, whose general tendencies are not altered though they may be forced to pay tribute to Liberalism on particular questions such as that of the reform of the Senate.

—We have been taken to task for repeating the statement that the Government was about to advance the passage money of a large body of navvies to work on the Pacific Railway. The statement was part of the Cable news, and it seemed to us to be confirmed rather than contradicted by the explanations of some of the Government journals. Nobody can suppose that we wish to do injustice to the Government. We only wish that it should go right and not wrong. Once more we register the admission that its Anti-Continental policy has been in accordance with established tradition and general sentiment, and that the policy which we have ourselves supported has been at variance with both, though with general sentiment we believe it is at variance no longer.

The Cable is again to blame, if we are mistaken in supposing that conferences have been held between our High Commissioner and the representatives of the Australian Colonies, with a view to some change in the relation of the Colonies to the Mother Country. Something in the nature both of an Imperial Zollverein and of an Imperial Emigration League seems to be still afloat; the special object of the Emigration League being to divert the stream of emigration from the United States to British Dependencies. We are sick, and we believe everybody is sick, of debating these questions in the abstract. We cannot conceive a tariff in which all the Colonies, with their great diversity of industrial interests and