

George Baden-Powell, K.C.M.G., M.P., Sir E. R. Russell, Sir Samuel Black, Sir James Poole, Messrs. W. F. Lawrence, M.P., J. C. Bigham, Q.C., M.P., A. F. Warr, M.P., and others.

The LORD MAYOR said:—Your Grace, Ladies and Gentlemen,—My duty to-day is a very simple one, inasmuch as this meeting has been brought together under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce ; but before commencing the proceedings I have been asked to say a word or two, which I do gladly, by way of welcoming to this city of Liverpool the distinguished visitors who have done us honour. (Loud applause.) Although this building does not contain a very large number, still it is a very representative meeting of the citizens, and I am sure that I speak not only in your name but in the name of every citizen of Liverpool in saying to our visitors to-day that we do welcome them to our city and especially for the purpose for which they came here. (Applause.) His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, as president of the British Empire League—(applause)—is to address you, and I will only add that we offer to the League a hearty welcome and that we wish God-speed to the cause they all have at heart. (Loud applause.)

Mr. F. C. DANSON said:—Let me first endorse in the name of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce those words of welcome which have fallen from our Lord Mayor. Turning to the particular business of this meeting, I should like to say a very few words by way of introduction. There has been a general feeling in this country that the future welfare of our empire depends very largely upon its commercial prosperity. The same principles apply equally to this old country and to every one of her colonies. The colonies in these days cannot be tied to the mother country, as in the days of ancient Greece and Rome, by force of arms or even by the more modern methods of legislation. There must be joint interests and unity of purpose, and successful commercial regulations will form one of the strongest ties to

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