

propose to have the requiem of the poet chanted over the grave of their rising nationality :

Oh ! vanished hope, oh ! transient boast ;
 Oh ! country gained but to be lost ;
 Gained by a nation raised, inspired
 By eloquence and virtue fired.
 Lost ! by thy chosen children sold,
 And conquered, not by steel, but gold.

The only other alternative is Imperial Federation. A name is nothing more than the idea which it embodies, and while the phrase might be better it still answers the purpose. "Imperial" brings to the eye of the mind a vast oceanic empire, world-wide in area, over-powering in population and strength, vast in commercial and industrial activity. "Federation" presents the ruling principle of the world to-day, the cause for which Americans fought and died ; the means by which German unity is maintained ; the link which holds the Austrian Empire together ; the tie which binds our Canadian provinces in one great Dominion ; the dominant aspirations of the Australian people ; the ambition of British citizens in South Africa ; and the principle which Ireland should endeavor to attain, and in which rests her best hope of peace and prosperity. It represents the policy which would have preserved the Empire of Rome and held the colonies of Greece in union with the noble mother-country. Our Empire is at the present moment, in a tentative degree, and with a feeble half-hearted conception of what ought to be the position of affairs—a federation. And it is an organized development of this "federation of republics linked together by the golden circle of monarchy," which advocates of this policy and principle desire to see consummated. But few realize what a wonderful power this great British realm is ! The figures in the following table seem almost incredible :

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

Area	11,269,750
Population	351,295,100

Public Revenue	\$1,033,040,325
Public Expenditure.....	\$952,719,870
Imports	\$2,971,948,185
Exports	\$2,582,005,400
Public Debts	\$5,616,950,355

The population is more than one-fourth that of the world, the land surface is more than one-fifth, and its united wealth and commerce is greater than that pertaining to all the rest of the world put together. Probably 75,000 millions of dollars is an under estimate of our total wealth. Such power, even unorganized, makes all other empires past or present fade into insignificance. British dominions are four-fold those of Ancient Rome, their influence for good or bad, for peace through union, or disaster through disintegration is so great as to make any historic comparison useless and worse than useless. Lord Brassey somewhere tells us that the "Sunbeam" on one of her voyages, steamed and sailed not less than 37,000 miles and yet during the whole thirteen months, occupied in traversing this great distance, only touched at four places which were outside the British Empire. And it is this greatness which Imperial Federationists wish to preserve ; it is this power which they desire to organize for mutual defence and preferential trade ; this union which they desire to connect by closer political relations.

Many ask for definitions. Let me give one or two : first quoting the Earl of Rosebery, President of the League ; "The Federation we aim at is the closest possible union of the various self-governing States ruled by the British Crown, consistently with that free national development which is the birthright of British subjects all over the world—the closest union in sympathy, in external action, and in defence."

Professor J. R. Seeley, one of the most powerful of English writers defines it as follows :— "Federation is in one word, the calling into existence of an organ of discussion and legislation for affairs