

ily be made invincible against attack as the British Empire, once its vast territories are developed and peopled as they should be, and once they are united in really effective partnership for common purposes. The difficulty and the danger lie in the present period of transition. The short-sightedness of a past generation has allowed the best of our manhood to people foreign countries instead of our own Dominion, has given the great market of England to build up the agriculture and industries of foreigners and rivals, has neglected all opportunities for common consultation and co-operation within the Empire. All the greater is the duty imposed upon us to make good the mistakes of the past. We must build up the young nations that are growing on the vast open spaces of the Empire. We must join hands together and find a practical working scheme of partnership. **AND MEANWHILE WE MUST GUARD WHAT WE HAVE GOT—AND THAT IS PERHAPS THE MOST IMMEDIATE AND MOST PRESSING TASK BEFORE US.**
