

(d) To develop the principles on which all parts of the Empire may best share in its general defence, endeavouring to bring into harmony public opinion at home and in the Colonies on this subject, and to devise a more perfect co-operation of the military and naval forces of the Empire, with a special view to the due protection of trade routes. (e) To assimilate, as far as local circumstances permit, the laws relating to copyright, patents, legitimacy, and bankruptcy, throughout the Empire. The League will also advocate the establishment of periodical Conferences to deal with such questions as may appear ripe for consideration, on the lines of the London Conference of 1887 and the Ottawa Conference of 1894. The meeting of January 29, 1896, was convened to consider the following resolutions:—(1) That the attention of our fellow countrymen throughout the Empire is invited to the recent establishment of the British Empire League, and that their support by membership and subscriptions is strongly recommended. (2) That this meeting learns with great satisfaction that His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., has accepted the position of President of the British Empire League, and also confirms the appointment of the following officers, viz.:—The Right Hon. Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., hon. treasurer; Sir Robert Herbert, G.C.B., chairman of executive; Mr. W. Herbert Daw, acting hon. treasurer; and Mr. C. Freeman Murray, secretary. (3) That this meeting expresses its thanks to the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor for granting the use of the Mansion House, and for his kindness in presiding on this occasion. There was a large attendance. Mr. Albert Sandeman, Governor of the Bank of England, wrote regretting inability to attend, and a letter of similar purport was received from Sir Albert Rollit, President of the London Chamber of Commerce.

The LORD MAYOR said he could scarcely conceive that a more important matter could call them together, neither could he conceive a more serious moment in which to discuss the questions before them. He trusted that whatever they did would be for the benefit of the country to which they were all attached.

Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, M.P., moved the first resolution. He said that, to the regret of the City branch, the Imperial Federation League had been dissolved by a majority of one in consequence of some difference of opinion on the council. The City