

Africans stand ready to fight shoulder to shoulder with Britons at home in defence of the common Empire, is something more than a theme for after-dinner speeches. It is this spirit which gives the Empire its strength, and justifies the policy of the Mother Country in keeping clear of European entanglements. It justifies still more the splendid, the almost reckless, liberality which has been the dominant note in our treatment of our Colonies for nearly half a century."

*The Yorkshire Post*, 25th Jan., said :—

"Through Great Britain and her Colonies the patriotic sense of unity is now producing an enthusiasm hardly less than would be experienced if we had annihilated some dangerous foe in battle, sinking his fleets and bringing him to sue for peace. Mr. Chamberlain's recent speech has been received . . . with a fervour which must suggest to the Government that the time has arrived for furthering materially the great work of Imperial consolidation. . . . He is well aware that the federation of the Empire—better still, were it attainable, the federation of all the English-speaking peoples—is the great work of an Imperial kind which our statesmen will have to undertake. . . . Mr. Chamberlain's words were the more important because never before had a British Minister used language that could not fail to be recognised as pledging a Government, though indefinitely, to the policy of Imperial Federation. . . . Mr. Chamberlain was very guarded in his committal of the Government; but it is impossible to doubt that he intended to intimate that nothing shall be wanting on their part or on his to promote so noble an end. Is not the present a splendid opportunity for doing something?"

*The Western Daily Mercury*, 23rd Jan., said :—

"We have recently seen something of the splendid loyalty which animates the British race in all parts of the world. A short time ago it seemed as if Great Britain stood alone against a forming confederacy of antagonists. What a noble sentiment the danger has evoked in Canada, in Australia, and even in India! . . . The events of the last few weeks have demonstrated our power in several ways, in finance, in resources, in coolness, and in determination. But no feature has been more agreeable than colonial loyalty and the quick sense of brotherhood all over the British Empire."

*The Bristol Times*, 22nd Jan., said :—

"The new Governor of one of the more important of our Colonies will be able to carry out with him, to his distant sphere of Imperial work, the assurance that the Colonial Office and the management of Colonial affairs were never in safer and stronger hands than they are at present, that the ties which bind the Colonies to the Mother Country have been immeasurably strengthened, and that everything will be done to enable and encourage them to play a more important part, as belonging to a great Empire, than they have ever played before."