

BONDS OF DISUNION ;

OR

IMPERIAL MISRULE IN THE COLONIES.

INTRODUCTION.

It seems but a poor compliment to the correct choice of a title for a book that the author should have to devote a few introductory lines to explain its meaning. It appears, at first sight, to be a confession that the book does not fit in with the title, and that the connection between the two must be justified by apparent apology for a want of correspondence between them.

My belief, however, is that no such apology is called for in the present instance, and I have therefore no further intention in penning these introductory lines than to briefly advance, for the sake of convenience and clearness, a statement of the objects sought to be attained in the ensuing chapters.

It is difficult to form a just estimate of the bearing of results where the end to be subserved is not clearly indicated ; while, on the other hand, the mere statement of the object in view ought of itself to suffice to ensure a correct appreciation of the means used to effect it, of the facts employed in illustrating it, and of the comparative value of the general line of reasoning.

I wish, then, as shortly as may be, to explain to the reader, at the outset, the general scope of a work which, in its subject, need not fail to interest, however defective the treatment of that subject may be, and however small the attention which