

Owning one law of religion and reason,
 Speaking one language and rich in its wealth ;
 Proud of the past and the bright present season,
 And the grand future of health and wealth ;
 So may the whole world's glorious communion,
 Nature and science and commerce rejoice,
 Growing together in one happy union,
 Filling the welkin with gratitude's voice.
 Canada, Africa, Zealand, Australia,
 India, continents, Isles of the Sea,
 Adding your jewels to Britain's regalia,
 One with old England, the home of the free.

We are told that 12,000 people in the Victorian capital witnessed the splendid ceremony of this opening of a first parliament.

The heir apparent concluded his address by reading the following message from the king :

" My thoughts are with you. I wish the Commonwealth of Australia every happiness and prosperity."

This message comes from an invisible sovereign. Then in a calm voice which can be heard from the speaker in their midst comes the words, " I now, in his Majesty's name and on his behalf, declare this parliament open."

Thus was the calling into being of a new nation, joined to the memory and tradition of a common past, which promises to the future Imperial growth.

When the first inter-ocean railway was completed in the United States, nothing made a more vivid impression upon the imagination of the world than the ingenious arrangement by which the last rivet, made of gold, was driven home by a silver hammer, so connected with an electric apparatus that the final taps echoed in every telegraph office of the Republic.

Australia improved on that device. A transmitter was fixed upon a table in front of the Duke of Cornwall, and the opening of the Federal Parliament was no