

been dismissed very briefly; but we are disappointed by the failure to discuss the new system of taxation on broader grounds than those touched in that debate, and to meet the really important criticism to be made upon it, viz: its inquisitorial methods, its complicated machinery of administration, its duplication of imposts on mercantile transactions (in respect of certain products), and other un-American features.

JAMES A. LEROY.

The Empire and the Century. A Series of Essays on Imperial Problems and Possibilities by Various Writers. (New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. 1905. Pp. xxiii+895.)

The purpose of this book is stated to be "to give an authoritative account of the empire, as it appeared to contemporaries at this particular moment of its history. It grew out of the idea of publishing an "imperial supplement" to the London *Outlook* in connection with the centenary of Trafalgar, and speedily outgrew that idea into this bulky volume. The stimulus to British imperialism given by the circumstances connected with the Boer war may be seen to be still affecting in 1905 nearly all the fifty contributors to this symposium. Chamberlain's proposals for an imperial fiscal system, too, were then arousing the hopes of those who dream of a really united empire. Though propaganda is expressly disavowed in this work, one notes a preponderance of voices for the Chamberlain plan among these imperialists of the ardent sort, while Editor Garvin of *The Outlook* presents at length a specially prepared argument for trade preferences within the empire, and the case for free trade is but tersely put by Editor Strachey of *The Spectator*.

The "divine mission" idea appears quite frequently, of course, and we find that same Providence, that we "provincial Americans" are fond of claiming for our nation's special protector and guide, performing here the same function for a somewhat less exclusive entity, viz: the "Anglo-Saxon people." It is more to the point, however, to remark how not only the divergences of opinion, but the totally different points of view, revealed by the various contributors to this symposium make it appear that the Chamberlain fiscal program is but one of various obstacles to the realization of the "imperial ideal," attractively presented though it be by some of these essayists. These obstacles are all of a highly practical nature (such as, e. g., the race problem in the empire), and one finds very little indication as to how they are to be removed in such gener-

alities as these remarks of the editor upon his contributors: "The one link of connection is that all are believers in constructive imperialism * * * They desire to see a self-conscious community rather than a collection of indeterminate atoms. They believe that the doctrine of *laissez-faire*, while it may be valuable as a conscious and reasoned policy, is extremely dangerous and futile as a temperamental attitude." Yet one lays down the symposium of these believers in "constructive imperialism" with the feeling that, in spite of them, the emphasis is upon the forces making for disunion rather than upon those making for union.

American readers will be especially interested in the way in which the "race problem" continually appears, above all in the South African sympathy with our own negro problem. The contribution (pp. 539-556) by Sir Godfrey Lagden, native commissioner for the Transvaal, is especially suggestive in this connection. In his essay on *Imperial Organization*, Richard Jebb uses rather strong words (p. 342) as to our past conduct toward Canada, speaking of our gaining our way with "inexperienced Englishmen" by "bluff and misrepresentation," and saying that we got the Alaska boundary question settled at London by "obvious trickery."

It is interesting to find a military writer, the same Colonel Young-husband who led the expedition to Tibet, suggesting that perhaps India's chief mission is spiritual in character, as a breeding-ground of religion, and that perhaps England's chief service in India is, by providing peace and order, to make possible the full and final realization of that mission. Also, it is worth while to quote from the article on Imperial Defense by L. S. Amery, one of the historians of the Boer war, the suggestive opinion (p. 187) that, while the panaceas of the Indian national congress cannot be adopted, "things cannot remain forever as they are now, if for no other reason, simply because a state governed and administered on the lines of the India of today can not hold its own militarily against states in a higher condition of political development."

JAMES A. LEROY.

The Early Federation Movement of Australia. By CEPHAS DANIEL ALLIN. (Kingston, Ont. 1907. Pp. ix, 431.)

If it be true that the federal state promises to become the dominant type of governmental organization the history of the federal movement in Australia may well deserve study as having culminated in the adoption of what is perhaps the most finished of federal constitutions. For