IMPERIAL FEDERATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND HER COLONIES IN LETTERS

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Imperial federation of Great Britain and her colonies In letters by Frederick Young

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FREDERICK YOUNG

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GREAT BRITAIN

AND

HER COLONIES

IN LETTERS EDITED BY

FREDERICK YOUNG

(ONE OF THE WRITERS)

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LONDON
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1876

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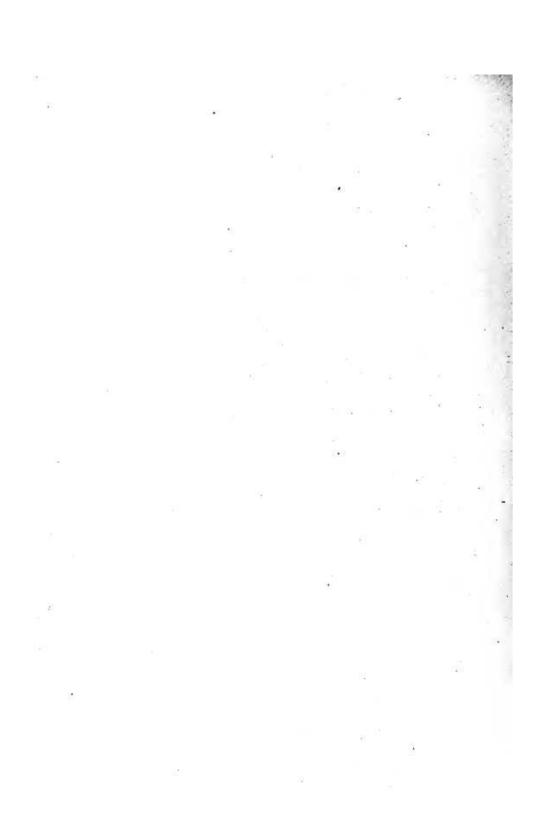
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THE BRITISH PEOPLE

'AT HOME' AND 'BEYOND THE SEAS'

This Volume, which is intended to bring to the earnest consideration of the wise and thoughtful among them the means by which, under the blessing of Almighty God, the permanent Unity of the Empire may be preserved, to the benefit and advantage of all who acknowledge the British sway, and for the advancement of progress and civilisation throughout the world, is, with feelings of the warmest sympathy, dedicated by their fellow-countryman

FREDERICK YOUNG.



INTRODUCTION.

EXACTLY one hundred years ago a memorable historical event took place. On the 4th of July 1776 the Congress of the United States adopted their famous 'Declaration of Independence,' and the bond between Great Britain and her American colonies was broken for ever.

Had wiser counsels prevailed in the mothercountry, this step might never have been taken by the most important and flourishing part of her Colonial Empire, and she might have been spared years of internecine strife and bloodshed, and of humiliating and hopeless warfare, in her vain attempt to reduce her rebellious Transatlantic citizens to an allegiance, they then solemnly, and emphatically repudiated. It was a period of great sorrow in England, and of great joy in America. The crushing defeat inflicted upon her, caused the deepest disappointment and chagrin to the former; while, to the latter, the complete victory gained by her successful colonists, was the source of enthusiastic jubilation and just pride.

From this struggle, and from its disastrous result, England has learnt a lesson she never will forget.

Deprived, as she was, of the best and most prosperous of her colonies, it might have been thought she never could recover from the effects of such a blow. But destined to become, some day, greater and more illustrious as a Colonial Power than ever, although shaken to her very foundations by the tremendous loss to her prestige she had sustained, she speedily rallied under it.

Her great colony of Canada, developed, in our own day, into a splendid and powerful Dominion, continued true to her, and resisted every overture to abandon the old and honoured flag.

The Cape, and the other colonies of the Crown also, still remained to her, to become in the present century the germs of a Colonial Empire, unparalleled in ancient, or modern history.

It seems the mission of Great Britain to be, by the Providence of God, the principal colonising country of the world. With sublime courage and most devoted zeal, her noble army of missionaries are ever going forth, with the Bible in their hands, penetrating into new regions at the peril of their lives, to preach the gospel of their Divine Master to the heathen, and spread the knowledge of Christian civilisation among the savage tribes of every clime. Quickly following their footsteps, multitudes of adventurous Englishmen, with indomitable energy and enterprise, are bent on developing the natural resources of each new country, as it becomes