THE PROBLEM OF EMPIRE GOVERNANCE

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The problem of empire governance by Charles E. T. Stuart-Linton

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CHARLES E. T. STUART-LINTON

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'May He Who hath built up this Britannic Empire to a glorious and enviable height, with all her daughter lands about her, stay us in this felicity!'—Milton.



PREFACE.

It is with no little diffidence that the author ventures to present this treatise dealing with the political unity and future of the British Empire. The question, in its modern aspect, though over a quarter of a century old, still seems a great distance from the arena of practical It is possible that critics of the book may politics. characterise some of the author's suggestions as purely academic, and therefore of no practical value, claiming, as they no doubt will, that the time is not sufficiently ripe for the discussion of some of these questions. But if we are to ignore them solely on that ground they will not only for ever remain so, but the Empire as a political entity will have vanished from the ranks of the great world-Powers. It is only by the free and frequent discussion of these Imperial questions that they can ever enter the realm of practical politics. To do otherwise will be to for ever doom a great and practical idea to academic speculation only-to a grave of mere theory. It is the purpose of this book, therefore, to discuss and consider the various details which, taken collectively, involve the Federation of the Empire. If it will induce reflection, it may also, in time, lead to

intelligent action. If it does this, the author will feel well rewarded for his task. There is no doubt that modifications of these views may be necessary. He expects that; but "The Problem of Empire Governance" will have accomplished some good in giving something to discuss that will lead to the quickest and best way of attaining the purpose in view. With that object the author submits the following chapters, intended to cover every phase of the subject presented to him.

The author desires to thank the editors of The British Empire Review, The Empire Review, and the United Service Magazine for their kind permission to include in this book portions of several articles which appeared in their respective publications.

CHARLES E. T. STUART-LINTON.

June 1912.

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