

As years went on, even Jacobite Highlanders, tactfully handled, found openings to their mind as hard-fighting soldiers in Highland regiments of the British Empire ; and in colonising, in trading, and, after the Old Empire had passed away, very conspicuously in the mission field, Scotsmen gave to the British Commonwealth an invaluable element of initiative, strength and endurance.

Not comparable to the Union of the two Kingdoms, but still of first-rate importance to British trade and prestige in the East was the union of the two rival East India Companies, which was completed in 1708. The palmiest days of the old East India Company, as a purely trading company, ended with the Stuarts. As directed by Sir Josiah Child, who lived till 1699, and who was a master of the art of wholesale corruption, the Company had with good cause made many enemies ; and the Whigs favoured a counter association which was incorporated in September 1698 with the title of 'The English Company trading to the East Indies.' The title of the old Company, under which it had been incorporated by Queen Elizabeth, was 'The Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies,' and, as against its new competitor, it was known as the London company. But both private interests and public policy pointed to compromise and combination ; and after an interval of friction and negotiation, finally ended by an award by the Lord High Treasurer, Earl Godolphin, in 1708, the two associations were combined under the title

engaged far into the design of Darien, and were great losers by it, saw now an honourable way to be reimbursed, which made them wish well to the Union and promote it.' *Bishop Burnet's History of his own Time* (Oxford, 1823), vol. v, pp. 278-9.