

# The Federation Herald

25 October 1889

Free

## PARKES SAYS IT'S TIME FOR FEDERATION

Yesterday, in the northern New South Wales town of Tenterfield, Sir Henry Parkes, the Premier of the colony of New South Wales, said that the time was now ripe for federation.

Sir Henry declared that people needed to decide whether the time had come for Australia to create an Australian Government for the continent. This statement was greeted by applause from the audience.

He went on to say that Australia now had a population of three and a half million, and that the American people had decided to unite when their population was between three and four million. The numbers were about the same except that the Americans had united after a long war which broke all ties to Britain. Surely Australians could federate in peace, he said, without breaking the ties that held them to Britain, the mother country.



The audience broke into rousing cheers at Sir Henry's statement. Sir Henry has appealed to the premiers of each of the colonies

to send representatives to a conference to discuss federation and to draw up a plan for a federal parliament.

Cartoon of Henry Parkes by Cotton, published in the *Daily Telegraph* 9/7/1900  
Courtesy National Library of Australia