

not kept pace proportionately with her great sister, the United States. If I were not afraid of referring to statistics, I would venture to say that it can be proved beyond doubt that Canada has not only kept pace with, but has surpassed in her development the advance of the United States, and that it is destined to afford a home to British subjects, who will not better their lot by joining their Republican neighbours. I am sorry that Mr. Fleming is not here to-night to hear the remarks that have been made by Sir Henry Lefroy and others on a country in which he has spent the greater portion of his life, and which has been the object of his industry and ability. (Hear, hear.) We who live at home at ease cannot readily estimate the hardships which a surveyor has undergone who has explored the wilds of Canada and of Newfoundland. (Hear, hear.) Most of his journeys, especially his earlier ones, were made in summer, and the sufferings to be endured at that season by reason of heat and mosquitoes are not to be lightly regarded. It has been said that if the spirit of the Evil One were allowed to be incarnated for the punishment of our sins, he could not assume a body more effective than that of a North American mosquito. (Laughter.) It is throughout these summer months, when the heat is almost tropical and mosquitoes awful, that these explorations have been made by Mr. Fleming and his associates. The only portion of British North America that is not included in the Dominion of Canada is Newfoundland. Opinions in that Colony differ as to the expediency of joining Canada, and good reasons can be urged on both sides. My own opinion is that in unity is strength, and that it would be wise of Newfoundland to unite herself upon proper terms. There are two opinions upon what terms are reasonable, and I have no doubt that when the statesmen of Canada and of Newfoundland shall dispassionately consider the question, a satisfactory solution will be reached. The large island of Newfoundland stands between England and America nearly midway; it is as large as Great Britain, it abounds in excellent harbours, it occupies a position which gives it the key of the St. Lawrence; its waters teem with fish, its land with minerals; it possesses a hardy and loyal population, which is just what the Canadians as a nation would want to man their fleet. When they shall have become one of the Powers of the world, nature prescribes Newfoundland to be the necessary complement of Canada, and the wisdom of Canadian legislation would be to offer such terms to that Colony as would bring the two together. The sooner that conjuncture takes place the better. The sense of the country has always been in favour of it upon adequate terms, and