

prolonged cheers that if war came Americans would face not a party, but five millions of united Canadians.

The above have been printed first because they are prior in date to what follows. No less entirely satisfactory are the more official parliamentary utterances of many of the leaders of politics in the Dominion House of Commons. On January 16th, replying to Mr. Laurier, the Opposition leader, who criticised the proposal of the Government to strengthen the Defences of Canada, Mr. G. E. Foster (Minister of Finance, and leader of the House of Commons) said in his place in Parliament :—

“No person can in the present circumstances, whatever may be said at other times—no person in Canada who loves his country and desires its peace and prosperity—can think of breathing a spirit of defiance or jingoism. It is the furthest remove possible from the sensible and well-meant sentiments of this country, which, while it respects other countries, feels evidence of its own strength in its arms, feels in its heart a full purpose to defend the country, and stand by it whenever it is threatened ; but he would read the signs of the times not aright, in these somewhat troublesome days when the great mother Empire stands

SPLENDIDLY ISOLATED

in Europe, with interests stretching over the wide world, with a commerce the greatest that any nation of the world ever possessed, and vulnerable in every quarter of the sea, who did not feel, as Great Britain feels to-day and is showing, that the country's weal, the country's progress, the country's stability, and all the country's pride and glory must be based upon the strong arms and willing, loyal hearts of the citizens of that Empire from one end to the other. (Cheers.) It is the right and duty of Britons, of Britain herself, and of every dependency that belongs to her, to be ready, aye ready, as well as steady in their sentiments of loyalty and admiration for the Empire as a whole. It is in that spirit, and not in any spirit that asks for war or trouble, that that modest reference was placed in the Queen's Speech, and in pursuance of that it is the determination of this Government to put the militia and the defences of this country, as far as it possibly can be done by Canada, into a state which is adequate to the feeling, interests, and security of this country in itself and as a portion of the Empire.” (Loud cheers.)

On the same date Mr. M'Neill, an Ontario member, gave notice of the following important resolution :—

“That, in view of the present threatening aspect of foreign affairs, this House desires to assure her Majesty's Government and the people of the United Kingdom of its unalterable loyalty and devotion to the British Throne and Constitution, and of its conviction that, should occasion unhappily arise, in no other part of the Empire than in the Dominion of Canada would more substantial sacrifices attest the determination of her Majesty's subjects to preserve unimpaired the