

of the active forces to be met—a land which is kept apart from the rest of the world for want of transportation facilities that our civilization to-day affords. The native forces are utilized in the great work and under Imperial officers are advancing from the north and from the south, and when that railway is completed they will have accomplished a great thing for the benefit of the world. That great engineering work performed by one nation is on a par with the efforts put forth by this small Canada of ours with its five million people, in constructing the Canadian Pacific Railway, but that was done through an uninhabited country or a country inhabited with a peaceable population. The African railway is advancing in the face of hostile tribes and in the face of all the difficulties that are found in that savage country, and when the line is built it will be open to everybody for trade, open to every country in the world, and all will have the same advantages that the British people themselves possess, with protection to life and property insured. Then, again, look at the great efforts put forth by the British government in the East to keep China open for the trade of the world, not to allow Russia or any other country to seize large slices of China and exclude the rest of the world from it, not to allow one nation of the world to close the doors of China and govern it according to their own individual ideas; England says the doors of China must be kept open to the whole world and for the benefit of China herself. Now, that is a noble policy for any nation to lay down. It is pursued in the interest of peace, for it is only when people are seizing and grasping for their own selfish desires that war ensues. Therefore, in supporting Great Britain in the effort she is putting forth to-day, occupying so wide a field in the eyes of the world to-day, we are fighting, not for the aggression, not for selfish objects, but fighting to ensure the peace of the world, and under wiser and better counsels bringing that about more gradually. It is a great privilege for Canada to be able to take her share and identify herself with Great Britain and say we are part of the great Empire. California and Florida are able to say, "we are part of the United States, a nation of 70,000,000 people." Canada by herself, throwing off her allegiance to the British Empire, and striving to govern this vast country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with five millions of

people, would very soon find her efforts thwarted if she had not the power of the British Empire to protect her from aggression perhaps, on our Pacific coast, perhaps on our Atlantic coast, perhaps aggression along the boundary line from the Atlantic to the Pacific. When we, as Canadians, are able to say we are part of, and no mean part of, an empire of 350 or 450 millions, then there is something to broaden our minds and guarantee us peaceful progress; we have no right to put upon the shoulders of Great Britain the entire responsibility of maintaining a defensive force for our benefit as well as for their own. There is not one solitary advantage gained by the British government in all the efforts they put forth that we do not share to the fullest extent. I have a book here on imperial defence, edited by Sir Geo. Clarke, an officer who is very distinguished, and I think ranks with Capt. Mahon as a contemporary writer on defensive forces, and I just wish to show from it the aggregate marine tonnage of the British Empire and the comparative expenditure upon its defence. It is computed only upon vessels of 100 tons and upwards:—

Country.	Aggregate tonnage mercantile marine (vessels, 100 tons and upwards).	Aggregate annual naval expenditure.
	Tons.	\$
United Kingdom.....	12,117,957	81,640,585
India.....	50,745	4,760,000
Self-governing Colonies.	937,476	1,101,080

Comparing the above figures with the tonnage and expenditure of other nations we have:

	Tonnage.	\$
United States.....	*994,675	25,366,825
France.....	1,094,752	54,125,200
Germany.....	1,886,812	21,590,625
Russia.....	487,681	25,572,845

\*Sea borne tonnage only.

These figures speak for themselves. The tonnage is 937,476, the expenditure \$1,101,080.

The aggregate naval expenditure by the United Kingdom is \$81,640,585; by India, \$4,760,000; while the self-governing colonies contribute \$1,101,080. That will give you a very clear idea of the proportion of the self-governing colonies together are bearing towards the naval defence, that is to say, that where England has been spending about \$6 or \$6.50 a ton in naval defence we don't spend one dollar a ton. They are bearing