

nevertheless enduring evils usually attendant only on the prostration of national strength.

It is not in my power, my Lord, to retrieve the almost withered hopes of Upper Canada; nor will the suffering inhabitants be able of themselves to sustain their fortitude in the immediate neighbourhood of a powerful hostile population, and in the rear of a rebellious province. I see very clearly that if the present state of things be suffered to continue for a much longer period, there must be a general wreck of property; and although eventually public prosperity may be restored, and may give to the young, the ardent, and the unencumbered, an opportunity of growing rich, yet it will not restore to those who have been prosperous the well-earned fruits of former industry, nor replace the present holder of property in the possessions which will have passed from him.

The effects of the moral deterioration which, it is to be feared, all this is working in the people will finally make these provinces indeed untenable and worthless, since the energies of their inhabitants, which can alone render them of sufficient value to be worth retaining, will be unavailable, unless supported by the feeling that the protection and security which the governed naturally look for from their Government, are afforded to their full extent.

The means, my Lord, of averting these impending evils, are not to be sought for in the Province, but in the mother country; and all will depend upon the opinion of the British Government as to the desire and power of England to retain the country in the face of all opposition.

The present friendly professions of the Government of America may be sincere, however contradicted by the outrageous conduct of her border citizens; but there is no real security for their continuance; and the question is not whether Canada can be held during a time of peace, but whether in peace or war it is to be protected, or contended for, with the power of the empire.

Assuming that your Lordship holds an affirmative opinion in this matter, the bright side of the prospect presents itself, and I see little difficulty in producing the most desirable results from the bold and decided measures that must follow.

It will be obvious to your Lordship, that the prosperity of the colony must mainly hinge upon the progressive development of its resources, by the united agencies of immigration and British capital.

The preliminaries to the efficient employment of these great means will be comprised in placing the Province in a state of complete defence, and in raising the credit of the colony in the British markets. This will attract capital seeking a profitable investment, that will inspire confidence as well to the borrower as the lender; for, my Lord, it must be remembered that capital is diverted from this country to other channels, merely because a doubt has been engendered as to the permanency of its political institutions. To induce emigration on a scale commensurate with the importance of the object which it is intended to promote, I would respectfully suggest to your Lordship, that it should be directly facilitated as a great national measure, and considered as that best calculated to preserve, at perhaps the least expense, the connexion of the colony with the parent state.

Your Lordship is aware to how narrow an extent the resources of this Province have hitherto been tried, in the way of taxation levied on the trade of the country. Were the imposts increased to even one-half of the amount, in proportion to property, raised throughout the American Union, the provincial revenue, provided that tranquillity and confidence were restored, would be in a flourishing condition, and the interest on the public debt could be met with facility; but, unfortunately, the want of a sea-port places it beyond the power of the local Government and Legislature to make any addition to the import duties; and even could this be effected, the want of confidence that is at present felt would prevent the measure from being attended with an immediate beneficial effect upon the public credit.

Without now discussing in what manner Upper Canada is to be permitted to have a port of her own, I trust I am not wrong in supposing that the giving her access to the sea will form a prominent feature in any remedial measures that may be proposed in her behalf in the British Parliament.

When this is accomplished, the revenue may be at once materially increased, without the slightest injury to trade, without anticipating future resources, and without producing any discontent. The very best security would, at the same time, be available to the public creditor, as a certain portion of such revenue might be inalienably set aside for the liquidation of the public debt.