

Dominion, and that the evidence of some renewed resolve is important.

The section in full is as follows:—

"Whatever may be the decision of Canada at the present juncture, Great Britain will not, in any circumstances, fail in her duty to the Dominions of the Crown.

"She has before now successfully made headway, alone and unaided, against the most formidable combinations, and *she has not lost her capacity* by a wise policy and strenuous exertions *to watch over and preserve the vital interests of the Empire.*

"The Admiralty are assured that His Majesty's Government will not hesitate to ask the House of Commons for whatever provision the circumstances of each year may require. *Any action on the part of Canada* to increase the power and mobility of the Imperial Navy and thus widen the margin of our common safety, would be recognized everywhere as a most significant witness to the united strength of the Empire and to *the renewed resolve* of the Overseas Dominions to take their part in maintaining its integrity."

What possible meaning can be attached to the words "renewed resolve" other than that the resolve to which expression was given in the resolution of March, 1909, has, since the present Government assumed office, wholly failed of further execution? Surely there is nothing in this section to warrant the departure from the policy of a Canadian Naval Service. Remembering the whole purport of the speech of the First Lord of the Admiralty at the Shipwright's Banquet, is there any action on the part of Canada, in view of existing circumstances, more likely to "increase the power and mobility of the Imperial Navy and thus widen the margin of our common safety" than that Canada should do what he describes as the important thing, namely, "fill up the gap" that has been occasioned by the withdrawal of the Atlantic and Pacific squadrons, so that, to quote his own words, "while we in the old country guard the decisive theatre, our comrades and brothers across the seas shall keep the flag flying on the oceans of the world?"

Mr. Borden Shown to Have Deliberately Restricted the Admiralty.

There remains, then, only Section 10. Does it imply a departure from this policy? Here is the Section in full—

"The Prime Minister of the Dominion, having enquired *in what form any immediate aid that Canada might give would be most effective*, we have no hesitation in answering, that after a *prolonged consideration of all the circumstances*, that it is desirable that *such aid should include* the provision of a certain number of the largest and strongest ships of war which science can build or money supply."

What of the words "It is desirable that such aid should include the provision of a certain number of the largest and strongest ships of war which science can build or money supply?" These words, it need hardly be said, imply **no preference what-**