

By the ravings of the leading Grit organ against American connection, which of course are daily scattered over the States, the door of commercial negotiation with American statesmen is being fast closed against the party. It would be easier at this moment for Sir John Macdonald to approach the American Government on the subject of reciprocity than for the lieutenants of the *Globe*.—*Bystander*.

The Formation of a Naval Reserve force in Canada for the protection of the Canadian mercantile marine is suggested. The suggestion is not one likely to be adopted, although, in the event of war between England and Russia, the North American squadron would be withdrawn, and the Canadian mercantile marine, which is the fifth in importance in the world, would be at the mercy of Russian cruisers. But the truth is that Canada could not afford to go to the expense of supporting a naval force, nor, so far as Canada herself is concerned, is there any need of such a force. There would not be the remotest danger of any foreign power interfering with Canada if Canada were a nation by herself and minded her own business. The only danger to which this country is exposed is on account of England, which may involve Canada in the consequences of a bloody war without a day's notice. It is probably fair to say that England must be prepared to abide by the consequences of her own acts, and that, in event of her becoming involved in war with a naval power, if she desires to retain Canada as a colony she must be ready to defend it.

Since Confederation the whole burden of the defence of Canada against the enemies of Great Britain has been thrown on our shoulders. What with repairs of fortifications, the late purchase of 200,000 lbs. of powder for Quebec, an order for \$50,000 of rifled guns being now executed in Montreal, clothing and stores of all kinds, millions of the people's money are being uselessly spent for the defence of Great Britain in America, and still the anti-Canadian party