

firmly. They should be told that for years past, party difficulties have prevailed in Canada, which have prevented the true feelings and sentiments of the people from being understood—or their practical readiness to defend themselves being evinced:—that now however we have a strong united government which has no fears for its own existence in proposing that outlay and undertaking those measures which are necessary:—and that we are now ready to enter on negotiations by which all future misunderstanding shall be avoided. They should also be told that there is a deep and abiding spirit of fervent loyalty both to the Crown and Constitution here, which is sensitive to, or has sometimes been wounded by the tone now and then taken towards us at home—that there is serious danger, that the notion that England wishes to get rid of us will sap that principle of loyalty—not in Canada alone, but in all British America—that we are prepared—not in words merely, but practically—to make any sacrifices to maintain our connection with England.—They should be told even more strongly than Col. Jervois has told them, that danger is imminent—that the country is utterly defenceless, and that Canadians could not hold it 24 hours—they should be told that in case of war we shall need the whole strength and all the resources, not of Canada only, but of the whole Empire, and that these must be given ungrudgingly as before: they should be asked at once to take care of the Lakes, and to send a flotilla of the smaller class of gunboats that are now laid up useless in Portsmouth. [Hear, hear.] If there is proper cooperation between the two countries we need not fear the result: at all events, England may be a sured we will sacrifice our last man, spend our last shilling, and defend the last inch of ground, if she is but true to us. (Cheers.) But she must not grumble if we are compelled, for these

purposes to impose taxes on ourselves, even by placing duties on all imported merchandise, unless she would have us break faith with the public creditor. Let her examine for herself and satisfy herself, that this way of raising a revenue in this country is, for the present at least, unavoidable. I know there are a few—but only a few among ourselves—who dread this expenditure, and think we are overtaxing the country. To these I answer: this is a crisis in our history—the country can never prosper so long as this constant fear exists of its becoming the theatre of war and that it is known to be defenceless. Will emigrants come here—will capitalists invest money in a country so situated? But let it be put once and for all in a condition of defence, and the danger of war is greatly diminished, if not at an end. (Hear, hear.) We will then have a sense of security among ourselves which will restore confidence abroad. Every year we will be gaining strength and getting abler to defend ourselves. As a mere balance of pecuniary advantage then, I say, it is clear we must now, and promptly, incur this expenditure, whatever it may be. The members of this house must not merely be content to follow public opinion in this—we must direct it, and we must all take pains, and spare no effort to reconcile our people to the necessity of additional taxation and new sacrifices. (Hear, hear.)

If we go to England in this spirit, I believe that ministers will be enabled to announce to the house at the adjourned session, that we have once more re-established a cordial understanding with her, and that parent and child will meet the invader at the frontier with the whole power of the Empire. (Cheers.) I would again entreat the house to have no division on this question. Let us be as unanimous here as I believe the country is. (Loud cheers.)