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triotism and best talent of the House of Commons would be brought to bear on military discussions, and each member would feel at liberty to propose or support measures for the good of the country rather than for the good of his political friends. The voters, whose suffrages elected our present House of Commons have, as regards this truly national question of Military Defence, no differences of opinion. They are on this question one in desire and aim, and, if Parliament will only consider and supply our military deficiencies in the same spirit of accord, what may not be accomplished during the next few months towards allaying the well-grounded anxieties of our friends, and discomfiting those sinister calculations of our enemies, which the existing state of things justifies and encourages? We must defend the Dominion. We must prepare a considerable force, so as to have it always available at short notice. We must organize and properly equip our Militia forces, that we may be in a position to crush any invasion as between jaws of iron. Such are the convictions of the great bulk of the people. They point also to the splendid men-material Canada can boast of, and ask why these hosts of patriotic and willing warriors are not arranged and ordered, trained and equipped without further delay. To the practical common sense of the people the main problem of defence seems to be one very easy of solution. Multitudes are saying, as with one voice: "Deal with existing materials first, and defer all theoretical and minor questions to subsequent consideration. Put the Dominion into an immediate attitude of reasonable defence, and then at your leisure go over the whole system with a careful scrutiny, and reform all actual abuses, until something like a moderate approach to perfection is attained."

We confess that we have always been totally unable to comprehend the principle on which certain persons have objected to any outlay for perfecting such a defensive system as should place this country in a position of security against a possible attack by foreign powers, and so remove the temptation offered by the state