

solidate an English empire which the world would be compelled to respect. Our present policy they fear will reduce England to a third-rate power. The imperial policy, favouring Canadian independence, is regarded, I have said, with some contempt as well as with sorrow. It is supposed to indicate a weak fear of a rival power, a feeling which no great nation can consciously retain without a fatal loss of self-respect. Such a fear, if it exists, Canadians say proudly, is wholly unreasonable. The United States would not fight for Canada; nor could they obtain Canada by fighting." Mr. Marshall, who as a stranger may be considered unprejudiced, says of their capabilities for defence, "The Canadians themselves are a peculiarly warlike people both in their training and temper, presenting in this characteristic, inherited from England, a marked contrast to the growing disposition of the people of the United States. 'It was difficult to conquer the South,' they say, with quiet assurance, 'but to subdue the North would be impossible.' They are hardy, stubborn, valorous; a nation of soldiers more truly than any people of this age, with the doubtful exception of Prussia."

Mr. Howe speaks as strongly of the timid policy of the British Government, which aims at buying peace at any cost:—

"But, it may be said, are we not part and parcel of a great empire upon which the sun never sets, which contains three hundred millions of people, whose wealth defies estimate, whose army is perfect in discipline, whose great navy dominates the sea. What have we to fear when this great empire protects us? This was our ancient faith, and proud boast under every trial. In the full belief that they were British subjects, that the allegiance which they freely paid to the Crown of England entitled them to protection, our forefathers helped to conquer, overrun, and organize these Provinces.

"But of late new doctrines have been propounded in the Mother Country. The disorganization of the Empire has been openly promulgated in leading and influential organs of public sentiment and opinion. Our brethren within the narrow seas have been