

by some that your liberties are dependent upon the Monroe Doctrine. Well, gentlemen, if you examine that matter I think you will be satisfied that the Monroe Doctrine, like the independence of the self-governing dominions, also floats on the British Navy. (Hear, hear). I do not know at what price you would value the Monroe Doctrine if the British fleet were to be swept from off the seas. If I have offended—which I do not admit—the limit of my offence is that I have never hesitated to give expression to my conviction that the continuance of your liberties and of your prosperity depends on the maintenance of the British supremacy on the seas. (Applause). This I believe to be so generally admitted as not to be controversial. Nor am I giving expression to any controversial opinion when I say that I do not believe there is a single person in Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, who, if he or she were convinced that the continuance of your liberties required the surrender of your lives, would not be prepared to make the necessary sacrifice. (Applause).

Gentlemen, it is because it has always appeared to me to be impossible that the strength and wealth and status of Canada, or of any of the self-governing dominions, could be increased without increasing in like degree the strength of the Empire, or weakened without in like measure weakening the strength of the Empire, that I have rejoiced as an Englishman over the remarkable material development of Canada that has taken place during the time I have been here and over her emergence from the status of a daughter to that of a sister nation within the Empire. (Applause).

If you examine the speeches I have made since I became Governor-General I do not think you will be able to find one single solitary occasion on which I have referred to Canada as a colony or to Canadians as colonials. (Hear, hear). And now let me tell you confidentially, just as an illustration of the atmosphere of the court of the new Governor-General—that when the Comptroller of the Household came over here not very long ago to make arrangements for the comfort of His Royal Highness he sat next a lady who, in that spirit of self-depreciation which is perhaps one of the charms as well as the weaknesses of people of British descent, said: "I wonder how you will be able to put up with us poor colonials." So the Comptroller of the Duke's household said: "Colonials, Ma'am? Colonials? I do not understand what you mean. In London we don't talk of Canadians as colonials. We know the Dominion; we know Canadians, but we do not know anything in London about colonials, so far as Canada is concerned."

Well, my impression is that in this respect both I and my royal successor will prove ourselves to be more national than many Canadians themselves. I have been careful from the very first to pay scrupulous regard to the dignity of your status by never referring to Canada as a colony nor to Canadians as colonials. (Applause).

I have also endeavoured to emphasize, during my governor-generalship, the character of your relationship to the Empire, by substituting wherever possible for the expression in ordinary use when I came into office, of "My