

form and shape. These statements have, no doubt, already done injury to our country. A surplus population does not seek countries which are supposed to be bordering on revolution. Capital does not seek investment in countries which are supposed not to be blessed with stable Government. Therefore, for the information of the outside world, for the information of those who have not had the advantage of being born or becoming Canadian citizens, for their advantage and for our own advantage ultimately, I have asked the House to adopt this resolution. To give further colour to these statements we find that the United States Congress appointed a Committee of the Senate ostensibly to inquire into the relations of Canada with the United States; but if anyone investigated the proceedings of that Committee he would find that apparently the principal anxiety of the Commission is to discover satisfactory evidence that this country is in a frame of mind to be annexed to the United States. I know of no better way of meeting their curiosity on that subject, and at the same time of settling this question, than for the people of Canada, through their representatives here assembled, to make an authoritative deliverance upon the subject. Such a deliverance will go far I believe, to settle the question in the minds of the people of the United States, and in the minds of the people of the old land, those of England and of continental Europe, and then I hope it will result in setting once more flowing towards our shores the surplus capital and the surplus population of those old lands which are so much wanted for the development of the resources of this vast Dominion. I make this statement in no feeling of unfriendliness to the United States. We cannot blame them for casting longing eyes towards this favoured land, but we can only attribute that to Canada's worth, and therefore to that extent we can appreciate their advances. But that the American people seriously believe that Canada, a land so full of promise, is now prepared, in her very infancy, to commit political suicide I cannot for a moment believe. Do the American people believe that this young country, with her admirable resources, with a population representing the finest races of human blood, with political institutions based upon a model that has stood the strain for ages, and has ever become stronger—do they believe that this country, possessing within her own limits all the essentials for enduring national greatness, is now prepared to abandon the work of the Confederation fathers, and pull out from the Confederation edifice the cement of British connexion which holds the various parts of the edifice together? Do they, I say, believe that the people of Canada are prepared in that way to disappear from the nations of the earth, amidst the universal contempt of the world? No, Mr. Speaker, the American people are too intelligent to believe any such a thing. They have been trying to make themselves believe it, but they cannot do it. But whether they believe it or not—no matter who believes it outside of Canada—I venture to say the Canadian people do not believe it; and whatever be the destiny of Canada, I trust that such as I have indicated is not to be her destiny—Canada, full of a people who rejoice, as I said before, more, perhaps, than they ever did yet, by reason of their connexion with an empire that has girdled the whole earth with a confederacy of provinces for the promotion of a higher civilisation, not for the sake of conquest. Sir, that connexion, I believe, has, if possible, intensified the feeling of love which is entertained by the people of Canada towards the union, and nothing, perhaps, has more aided it than the events of the Victorian era in which we now live. It is not my intention to refer to anything that can possibly suggest a controversy upon this question. In order that this motion may have the fullest effect it should have, I think, the heartiest endorsement, the unanimous endorsement of this House. I shall, therefore, avoid any further discussion of this question, believing, as I do, that there is nothing in respect to British political connexion that ought to interfere with the material prosperity of our country. Believing this, and believing that the present is an opportune time for us to make a candid declaration of what we deem to be the sentiments of the country, and believing also that such a declaration will not be an unwelcome communication to Her Majesty, I beg to move the adoption of the resolution.

*Mr. Amyot :* As a British subject of French descent, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion of my hon. friend. I endorse every one of his words, and I am happy to choose this occasion to speak in the name of the county which I have the honour to represent in this House. I think the motion is opportune, and I will take this occasion to tell the new members of this House who, perhaps, have not studied our history fully, the exact position that we have occupied in the past, so far as loyalty is concerned, and the reasons why we French Canadians are loyal to the Crown. After the Treaty of Paris a great many struggles occurred between the old and new colonists, as might have been expected, and as is always the case when a sudden change takes place in a country. After many petitions and representations, the Act of Quebec, in 1774, passed, and it was