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HIS EXCELLENCY LORD ABERDEEN.



COUNTRESS ABERDEEN.

Britain's Financial Standing, April 30th, 1897.

Revenue.....	£103,950,000
Expenditure....	101,477,000
Surplus.....	2,473,000

Sir William Hicks Beach, the chancellor of the Exchequer, made the following statement:

"The national debt has been reduced £7,584,000 (\$37,920,000) during the year, and the total value of the British trade during the last financial year is £738,000,000, an increase of 5 per cent (or over \$185,000,000) over the previous year.

BRITAIN'S ARMED FORCE

A Million Soldiers Available

IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

The present state of the forces (officers and men) of the British Empire on land may be set forth thus:

Regular forces, home and colonial.....	156,000
Army reserve.....	85,000
Militia.....	122,000
Yeomanry.....	11,000
Volunteers.....	232,000
European forces in India.....	77,000
	683,000

The native army of India numbers 145,000 men. The Native Indian States have 20,000 men specially organized for Imperial service. Besides these, they have nominally large forces, out of which one-third

may be taken as effective for at least home service, in the British sense of the term—quite 100,000 men. To this must be added the colonial militia or volunteer forces (officers and men), embodied and trained:

The Canadian Dominion....	34,000
Jamaica.....	2,000
Cape Colony.....	7,000
New South Wales.....	6,000
New Zealand.....	8,000
Queensland.....	3,000
South Australia.....	2,000
Victoria.....	5,000
Total.....	67,000

This, added to the previous figures, brings up the total to 1,015,000. This represents a peace establishment consisting of men either under arms at the shortest notice.

The British Empire in India.

As to the good government of or otherwise, by the British, it must be remembered that its native population is now fully 300,000,000, whilst the British born residents scarcely exceed 100,000.

The area of the country is immense. It extends over a territory larger than the continent of Europe without Russia. The languages of the country are at least 78 in number grouped into some twelve sections or families.

THE VICEROY OF INDIA.

The Governor-General is Viceroy of India, and is entitled to a royal salute, taking rank next to the Queen herself, and before all other members of the royal family. He

is the supreme ruler of 300,000,000 of the human race and of forty-two native royal princes from the ruler of Hyderabad, with his 11,000,000 of subjects, to the native Prince of Kalsia, who represents a little state of 15,000 Jat Sikhs.

The Viceroy's income is equal to about \$124,800 per annum.

THE NATIVE POLICE.

The police force of India is largely made up of natives. The highest officers are Englishmen, but the chief work of the force is done, and very excellently done by the natives.

Canadian Loyalty.

REFERENCE TO IT IN THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

LONDON, Aug. 6, '97.—It was in part as follows:

"I have given notice to the King of the Belgians and the German Emperor to terminate the treaties of 1862 and 1865 whereby I am prevented from making with my colonies such fiscal arrangements within my empire as seem to be expedient.

COLONIAL ATTACHMENT.

The presence of representatives of the colonies and India at the ceremonies of the celebration of the sixtieth year of my reign has contributed to the strength of the bond of union in all parts of my empire, and additional proof of the attachment of the colonies to the mother country has been furnished in the fiscal year legislation of Canada and

the contribution that Cape Colony, following the example of Australasia, has offered for our naval defence.

Britain since 1837.

In making his budget speech in June last (1897,) Sir Michael Hicks-Beach took advantage of the occasion to look back over the Queen's reign and recite a few interesting facts.

The total revenue of the nation in 1836 was \$52,500,000, and in the year just closed it was £112,000,000.

The total foreign trade of Great Britain in 1836 amounted to £125,000,000, whereas last year it was nearly £738,000,000.

The deposits in the savings banks in 1836 amounted to £18,750,000, and last year's deposits totalled up to £155,000,000.

In 1836 no less than eight cents to send a letter 15 miles in the United Kingdom; it cost 24 cents to send a letter 300 miles, and to send a letter to South America it cost 84 cents.

While in 1836 the annual interest of the debt was a yearly tax of over \$5 per head of the population it is now only \$2.16 per head.

In 1836 the total cost of the monarchy to the taxpayers was £534,000.

Wages have risen, houses are better, healthier, food and clothing are cheaper, and best of all crime has enormously diminished.