

depend upon such help from her colonies. 'By rivals and enemies,' says the Morning Post to-day, 'the decision will be eagerly welcomed. By friends it will be regarded as ominous.' The impression must inevitably be created that the solidarity of the Empire is a myth and that those powers which would like to see the overthrow of British naval supremacy need not be discouraged in their efforts by the thought that their challenge would be met by the united resources of the mother country and of everyone of the daughter states."

Not even in his celebrated Boston speech of 1891 did Sir Wilfrid Laurier make a stronger attack upon British connection and upon the integrity of the Empire than by dictating to his appointees in the Senate the course which many of them weakly followed against their conviction and against their better judgment.

In deploring, as we all deplore, the necessity of armaments, we should always be mindful of two considerations. First, that this Empire cannot control and therefore must be prepared to meet the armaments of other nations. Second, that the free pathway across the seas is the first condition of the Empire's existence.