

tinctness which will be universally appreciated. Whilst admitting that it would be wrong to attempt to maintain the connection between Canada and Great Britain against the wishes of the Canadians themselves, he yet maintained that so long as we are in earnest in our desire to maintain that connection, the tie not only of interest but honor bound the people of Great Britain to second our efforts as far as possible. The noble lord then went on to make the following observations, which we venture to assert will awaken a truly national response. He said:—"I differ from the noble lord in his estimate of the value of our American possessions, for I think that the command of the St. Lawrence and our possession of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are of the utmost value to us, and are of infinitely more importance than the question of money or economy. I say, therefore, that it would be an ignominy to which I hope we shall never submit, if we were on any pretext whatever—on any pretext, however flimsy—to permit those provinces to be invaded and separated from us, not by their own act, not from any desire on their part to separate their connection with us, but by the forcible invasion of a hostile country whose good will we have endeavored to propitiate, however unsuccessfully, by a neutrality at all events more favorable to the North than to the South. I say that under these circumstances to allow the colony to be wrested from us without putting forth the whole strength of the empire, aided as we should be by the colonists themselves, would be an endless disgrace and ignominy to which I hope this country will never submit."

## 2. PROGRESS OF THE COLONIAL EMPIRE.

The *New York World* compares the present rule over the Southern States with the old colonial government, which had its centres in the capitals of Europe; and in the course of its remarks makes the following reference to some of the present colonies of Great Britain:—

During the past twenty years, England has gradually endowed all her colonies with self-government. They are managed by legislatures of their own election, co-operating with governors of Imperial appointment. They levy their own taxes, collect their own customs, and, in short, do almost all things "free and independent states may and of right ought to do."

What are the results?

The Australian colonies, including New Zealand, though they possess a population of no more than 1,336,000, a number no larger, certainly, than that of the existing white population of Virginia, and though this population is distributed over an area as vast as Europe, or of 2,582,000 square miles, had developed in the year 1863 a trade movement of no less than £56,869,000 sterling made up as follows:

Importations.	Exportations.
£30,018,000	£26,851,000

As the real start in life of the Australian colonies dates from about the year 1847, it may, therefore, be said with safety that these colonies, under the stimulus of local self-government, attained in less than twenty years, and with a population immensely inferior in numbers, the same point of commercial importance reached by the United States after forty years of independent nationality!

The development of the North American colonies of Great Britain has been less astounding, but not less instructive when we consider that no such extraordinary causes have been at work there as in the gold fields of the antipodal settlements. A commercial movement of £28,486,000 in the year 1863 testifies to the productive results of metropolitan non-interference with trade and industry.

The Mauritius and the other East Indian island colonies of Great Britain afford a yet more striking example of the good to be expected from forbearing to do all that certain politicians seem disposed to insist that we shall do at the South.

The commerce of Ceylon, the Mauritius, Hong Kong, and Labuan, points hardly considered by most men in their estimate of the world and its available resources, reached, in 1863 the relatively enormous sum of £14,376,000, their importations alone, £8,046,000 in amount, being equal to about one-sixth of the importations of the United States during the same period.

It has amazed, and we hope it may eventually enlighten, many observers among ourselves to find that, notwithstanding the heavy blow struck at the great manufacturing interests of England by our civil war, the general trade and commerce of the United Kingdom has greatly increased ever since the year 1860.

Facts such as these which we have just set forth go far to explain this striking and most interesting phenomena. And when we find that the total commerce of the colonial empire of England, for the year 1863, was equal to considerably double more than our own trade for the same year, we ought to be prepared to ask ourselves whether the extent and value of the natural resources of a nation

be not an utterly secondary matter, in the history of its development, to the system under which those resources are administered.

## 3. WHAT NEW BRUNSWICK DID IN THE LAST AMERICAN WAR.

As there appears to be a great deal of useless talk at the present day, with respect to the indifference of the Colonies in the cause, or interests of the Mother Country, in case of an invasion of her possessions, by our American neighbors, it would not be amiss, perhaps, to lay before our readers an account of the deeds performed by our Colonial Militia during the last American war, when, it may be justly said, we stood forth in our own defence, and manfully fought the battles of the Mother Country, almost single handed and alone. All this was done without a "union of the Provinces." We are indebted for this information to a lecture recently delivered by Mr. Fenety at Sheffield and Oromocto, New Brunswick, from which we make an extract:—

"But the spirit of the people of this county (York) has already been put to the test, and their courage placed beyond question. I have reference to the American war of 1812, when a regiment was raised in York, called the 104th, numbering upwards of 1,100 men. It was a voluntary act altogether. There was no draft or conscription about it. Every man joined of his own accord, for the purpose of marching over the country, into Canada, to assist the Canadians in repelling the formidable attacks of the Americans upon their border, led by such men as the present General Scott. The deeds of heroism, the trials and sufferings of the 104th, would have reflected lustre upon the choicest and most devoted regiment in the British service. Indeed they performed acts of valour, which, it is doubtful, if a regiment of the line could have exceeded, if equalled, considering the climate and the character of the country to be traversed, where some of the principal engagements took place, where the toil of the hardy woodsman, and the most robust constitution were absolute requisites in the composition of a good soldier. From Fredericton to Quebec it was one continual march—tramp, tramp, day after day, for three weeks, and it was during the coldest month in the year, (January) and in one of the most severe winters on record.

Some three or four years since we sent some 6,000 British troops from St. John to Canada on sleds, each sled being drawn by two horses. The men were all bundled up in fur. It was more like an immense pleasure party, going upon a stage journey, one continual carnival throughout, and they sang as they glided along to the tinkling of the bells. At night they were comfortably housed, billeted upon the inhabitants along the road; and in the morning would resume their journey refreshed, lithe and gay. The roads were in excellent order. It was a remarkably mild winter, with just enough snow on the ground to render the sleighing good. The whole distance from St. John to Trois Pistoles (where the cars are taken for Quebec) was performed in six and seven days. It was somewhat amusing, shortly after this, to see the illustrations in the *London News*, in which the troops appeared to be marching (not riding) through snow-drifts, filing through the woods on foot, in a zig-zag manner, by Indian defiles and bye-paths, and escorted by natives of the forest, to prevent them from getting lost—all of which, as you are aware, was as far from the reality as fact can be from fiction. About this time a dinner took place, (I forget the occasion) at the Thatched Tavern, in London, at which a number of military gentlemen were present; and one of the speakers of the evening, in the course of his remarks, observed that the sufferings of the gallant soldiers who went out to America to defend the Canadians against an unexpected attack from the Americans, were almost unequalled, unparalleled in history. He declared the march of the 43d through the forests of Canada, a distance of 600 miles on foot, was one of the greatest peril and hardship known since the days of Xenophon, when that warrior led the Greeks Northward in their retreat, after being overwhelmed by the Persians. That gentleman was certainly more classical than truthful. He was indebted to his fancy for his facts, or perhaps to the imagination of the artist who drew the pictures for the *Illustrated News*.

Come we now to our New Brunswick 104th Regiment, and we shall see that the wretchedness and misery above depicted, will apply to their case, without the least doubt or exaggeration.

In 1812 there was no regular road between Fredericton and Quebec, as we may say, after getting beyond Woodstock; it was little better than a cow-path as a general thing, and not as much as this in some places, for the route was merely traceable through the woods by means of blazoned trees. The 104th, therefore, had to walk the whole distance upon snow-shoes, and their provisions and accoutrements were drawn upon toboggans, six men to each. Not a single horse was employed upon the expedition.

Before setting out, a number of Indians were started ahead to