

deserves. The British taxpayer begins to feel, however, that he has been a patient beast of burden long enough. The galled jade begins to wince. Must he always pay the piper to the tune of one hundred and fifty millions per annum for a navy to protect the whole Empire? Correct! I am glad he is waking up. Perhaps, now something worthy of a great Empire will be done.

But what is to be done? Demand that the colonies contribute to help the British taxpayer meet the expense of the navy? That lands you exactly where you were one hundred and fifty years ago. So far as the payment of the money goes, what is the difference between supporting the navy one hundred and fifty years ago in time of war and now in time of peace? Our brethren a century and a half back would not submit to be taxed without representation. It has been better for all Britishers beyond the seas that they did not. The old land learned a lesson not yet forgotten. I hope Canadians have as much of the true spirit of liberty as colonial Britishers had in those days. They have only to stand firm and there will be an adjustment of Imperial affairs which will be far better for the Empire and our children than present conditions warrant.

It is but just the colonies should assist in supporting the navy so long as the navy is a benefit to the colonies. We are not gainers by having our expenses paid by other people. Don't be a pauper till you have to. But don't pay without a share in the management. That keeps the analogy of the different grades of federation complete. That matters little if it were not that a great principle is involved—one of the fundamental principles of genuine liberty.

But we are told that as the colonies are not represented in a central council, or parliament, they are only to be requested to help to support the navy. Well, if that isn't building up an empire on the uncertainties