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unpopular in Canada because of its pecuniary arrangements, but it is urged on us for Imperial causes and for the sake of the peace of the Empire, but the pecuniary interests of Canada should, in the opinion of the Canadian Government, be considered; and the undoubted claim of Canada for compensation for these, Fenian outrages has been set aside.

We may well, therefore, call upon you to strengthen our hands by showing you are unwilling to sacrifice Canada altogether for Imperial purposes solely. Sir, we asked that for Canada, and the response was immediate and gratifying, except that England did not accept the whole of our proposition to guarantee a loan of £4,000,000 sterling. But I am as certain as I am standing in this House, and I am not speaking without the book, that had it not been for the unfortunate cloud that arose between the United States and England, which threatened to interrupt the friendly settlement of all questions between them but which I am now happy to say is passing away, the difficulty would have been removed by England permitting us to add to the £2,500,000 sterling, £1,400,000 sterling which she guaranteed some years since to be expended on fortifications and other defensive preparations. That money had not been expended, and there would now have been no object in applying it for the construction of works which would have been a standing menace to the United States, and would have been altogether out of place immediately after signing a treaty of peace and amity which I hold to be a good one.

I do not hesitate to say, and I repeat, I am not speaking without the book, that I believe a proposition of that kind would have been acceptable to Her Majesty's Government, but when the cloud arose, when there was a possibility of this Treaty being held as a nullity, and when there was a danger of the relations between the two countries returning to the unfortunate position which they were before, then was not the time for England to ask us, or for us to propose to give up the idea of fortifying our frontier and defending our territory. Then was not the time either for the Canadian Government to shew an unwillingness to spend money upon these works, or to defend and retain the Dominion as a dependency of the Sovereign of England. (*Cheers.*) I say, therefore, that while we are actually receiving a guarantee of £2,500,000 sterling if the relations of England and the United States are again brought into harmony, and the lowering cloud which recently sprung up is removed, and removed in such a way as never to appear again, then it may fairly be thought it may reasonably be calculated upon, then we will have a guarantee of the full amount of £4,000,000 sterling in order to carry out the great improvements we have entered upon. The Finance Minister (Hon. Sir Francis Hincks) has shewn you the advantages which will flow from that arrangement, and it would be presumption in me to add a word to what he so well said upon that point which is in the highest degree satisfactory to this House and in the highest degree also satisfactory to the people of the country.

I shall now move the first reading of this Bill, and I shall simply sum up my remarks by saying that with respect to the Treaty I consider that every portion of it is unobjectionable to the country,

unless the articles connected with the fisheries may be considered objectionable. With respect to those articles, I ask this House fully and calmly to consider the circumstances, and I believe, if they fully consider the situation, that they will say it is for the good of Canada that those articles should be ratified. Reject the Treaty, and you do not get reciprocity; reject the Treaty, and you leave the fishermen of the Maritime Provinces at the mercy of the Americans; reject the Treaty, and you will cut the merchants engaged in that trade off from the American market. You will have a large annual expenditure in keeping up a marine police force to protect those fisheries amounting to about \$84,000 per annum. Reject the Treaty, and you will have to call upon England to send her fleet and give you both her moral and physical support, although you will not adopt her policy; reject the Treaty, and you will find that the bad feeling which formerly and until lately existed against England will be transferred to Canada—that the United States will say, and say justly, that here, when two great nations like England and the United States have settled all their differences and all their quarrels upon a perpetual basis, all is to be frustrated and endangered by the Canadian people, because they have not got the value of their fish for ten years. (*Cheers.*)

It has been said by the hon. gentleman on his left (Hon. Mr. Howe), in his speech to the Young Men's Christian Association, that England sacrificed the interests of Canada. If England had sacrificed the interests of Canada, what sacrifice had she not made herself in the cause of peace? Has she not, for the sake of peace between those two great nations, rendered herself liable, leaving out all indirect claims, to pay millions out of her own treasury? Has she not made all this sacrifice, which only Englishmen and English statesmen can know, for the sake of peace—and for whose sake has she made it? Has she not made it principally for the sake of Canada? (*Loud cheers.*)

Let Canada be severed from England—let England not be responsible to us, and for us, and what could the United States do to England? Let England withdraw herself into her shell, and what can the United States do? England has got the supremacy of the sea—she is impregnable in every point but one, and that point is Canada. And if England does sacrifice us, does find it for the good of the Empire that we, England's first colony, should sacrifice something, I say that we would be unworthy of our proud position if we were not prepared to do so. (*Cheers.*) I hope to live to see the day, and if I do not that my son may be spared to see Canada the right arm of England (*Cheers*), to see Canada a powerful auxiliary to the Empire, not as now a source of anxiety and a source of danger. I think that if we are worthy to hold that position as the right arm of England, we should not object to a sacrifice of this kind when so great an object is attained, and the object is a great and lasting one.

It is said that amities between nations cannot be perpetual. But I say that this Treaty which has gone through so many difficulties and danger, if it is carried into effect, removes almost all possibility of war. If there was an irritating cause of war, it was from the occurrences arising out of the escape of those vessels, and when we