

want to put us in a position in which we can be of more assistance to the Empire, give us of your surplus population. The United States have about seventy-four millions. Put ten millions of people in Canada, and what would be the effect? It would be greatly to calm the diplomatists of the United States in their efforts sometimes to encroach on what we say are Canadian rights. (Laughter.) The diplomacy of the United States has been to their advantage in every treaty negotiated between the United States and the United Kingdom and if time permitted I could go over them in detail and show you that they have secured some advantage at the expense of Canada. Why? They were so powerful that they overawed us. We felt it, and suffered loss as a consequence. The other day I noticed that Mr. Hanna, the "Boss" of the Republican Party, said that the United States was not prepared to negotiate a commercial treaty with Canada in which they did not get the best of the bargain. I say to him that we will not make any commercial treaty with the United States, if we know it, by which they get the best of the bargain. We do not want to be imposed upon by reciprocity treaties which place us at a disadvantage with the United States, and it would be foolish for us to do so. To get back to my point, it is this—if you want the Empire to be strengthened send us of your people. We are encouraging the emigration of Doukhobors and Galicians and also Mennonites, but these people have to go through a course of naturalization in fact and in sentiment. Send your people to the Colonies and they are British subjects from the moment they settle, and always. They are British in their tendencies, dispositions and sympathies. I do not say ultimately that they will be better than the others, although I think they will; but immediately they are better and more helpful to the Dominion. Then as to the defence of the Empire, that cannot be over-estimated. We have sent 3,000 of our young men to the South African war. We might have given you 30,000, and would had they been required. New Zealand has sent you her 2,000 and Australia 3,000 or 4,000 more. Napoleon said that Providence was on the side of the biggest battalions. Everybody knows that the numerical strength of a country gives it a great advantage. The United States with 74,000,000 would be more dangerous in a contest than they would have been thirty years ago with only 32,000,000. Give us 10,000,000 in Canada and then should there be any attack on us by our neighbors—we do not fear anything of the sort—we should be in a far better condition to defend ourselves and the interests of the Empire than we are now. In 1812, with a population of 400,000, Canada resisted American aggression for three years and with comparatively little assistance from home, for your hands were full in waging your great wars with Napoleon. I do not make these remarks in any menacing spirit, but as a matter of good tactics. For our own defence and the defence of the Empire, the population of all the